

Eight Months on Active Service;

OR,

A DIARY OF A GENERAL OFFICER OF CAVALRY in 1854.

London :
PRINTED BY
WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS,
14, CHARING CROSS.

NARRATIVE.

EARLY in the Spring of 1854, it became apparent that War would break out between this Country and Russia. I did not lose any time in applying for a Command in the Cavalry, conceiving that I might have a fair claim to employment on active service, as I had previously commanded the 11th, or Prince Albert's Own Hussars, 18 years, and the 15th King's Hussars two years, also during this period I for several years commanded the Cavalry Brigade in Dublin, and in the East Indies, in the course of which time I had many of the British Regiments of Cavalry under my command. I was not disappointed, and was recommended by the Commander-in-Chief Lord Hardinge, and the Secretary of State for War, to the Queen, for the Command of the First or Light Cavalry Brigade.

The following was the Official notification of my appointment:—

MY LORD, WAR OFFICE, 1st April, 1854.

The Queen having been pleased to appoint you to serve on the Staff of the Army, to be employed on a particular service under the Command of General the Right Honourable Lord Raglan, K.C.B., as a Brigadier General, with one paid Aide-de-Camp and one extra unpaid. I am commanded to acquaint your Lordship, that it is Her Majesty's pleasure, that you do obey such orders as you shall receive from Her Majesty, the General Commanding in Chief, or any other Superior Officer.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

SIDNEY HERBERT.

The following was a confirmation of my appointment, which I received in the month of August:—

MY LORD, HORSE GUARDS, 25th July, 1854.

I have the honour, by direction of the General Commanding in Chief, to acquaint your Lordship, that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint you to serve as Major-General on the Staff of the Army in Turkey, from the 20th June, 1854.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

G. A. WETHERALL, D.A.G.
Major-General THE EARL or CARDIGAN.

This notification was made consequent upon the Brevet which had on the 20th July removed me from the Command of the 11th Hussars, to the rank of Major-General.

The following is a Diary of what daily occurred during my absence from England.

After having taken an affectionate leave of many dear friends, I left London by the mail train, on **Monday, the 8th of May, 1854**; and I may here state, that I went away in very indifferent health, having for a considerable time had a severe bronchial affection of the chest.

1854.

Monday, 8th May.—Left London by mail train, and arrived at Folkstone at 11½ P.M. An old friend of mine, General Lovell, and my Agent, accompanied me to Dover.

Tuesday, 9th May.—Left Folkstone by 8 A.M. packet, and arrived at Boulogne at 10.20. Left by 12½ train for Paris.

Wednesday, 10th May.—Dined at Café de Paris with some English friends.

Thursday, 11th May.—Dined at hotel, and went to a reception at Tuilleries. The Emperor presented me to the Empress.

Friday, 12th May.—Went to Vaudeville Theatre. The Emperor and Empress were there; and also poor Lady Strathmore, who died shortly afterwards.

Saturday, 13th May—Left Paris at 10½ A.M., and got to Chalons at 9½ P.M. : having fairly started for the East!!

Sunday, 14th May.—Left Chalons at 5½ A.M. by boat, and got to Lyons at 3 P.M. My aide-de-camp, Lord Dupplin, was with me from Paris. Lord Abinger and Brigadier-General Scarlett on the railway. I here had a visit from Sir George Napier.

Monday, 15th May.—Left Lyons at 3½ A.M. by boat, and arrived at Avignon at 5, and at Marseilles at 9½ P.M. Walked up on the promenade on high ground at Avignon.

Tuesday, 16th May.—Went to Hotel de L'Orient, at Marseilles; embarked at 3 P.M. on board the "Ganges," French steamer, with Lord Dupplin, for Messina and Constantinople. Colonel Scarlett and Lord Abinger, and Colonel Conolly (Brigade-Major), embarked on board steamer for Malta. The former

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

was going out as a Brigadier-General to command the Heavy Brigade. We got under weigh at 5 P.M., with very fine weather.

Wednesday, 17th May.—Off the coast of Corsica early in the morning, and passed the straits of Bonifacio at 4 P.M.

Thursday, 18th May.—Very fine weather. Our course Stromboli. Saw Italian coast and islands on the left frequently.

Friday, 19th May.—Anchored off Messina, at 8 A.M. Went on shore with Consul Barker. Got under weigh at 4½ P.M. Sighted Etna at 6½ P.M., on rounding the southern coast of Italy.

Saturday, 20th May.—Remarkably fine weather: going at ten knots an hour.

Sunday, 21st May.—Having continued at the same rate, sighted Athens about 3 P.M., and anchored at the Piraeus at 5 P.M. Went on board "Leander," Captain King, and to the Hotel D'Angleterre, at Athens. Dined on board with Captain King.

Monday, 22nd May.—Breakfasted at 6 A.M. in gardens at Hotel, with Lord Dupplin, Colonel Townley (Queen's Messenger), and an American colonel. Went to see ruins. Found French packet from the East, with General Baraguay d'Hilliers on board, on return from his embassy at Constantinople. Having slept at Hotel d'Angleterre at Athens, went out at 6½ A.M. to Acropolis and Pantheon, the highest point from which to see the splendid view of the town of Athens and country around. 42 columns are in existence. A magnificent ruin! Got under weigh at 11 A.M.

Tuesday, 23rd May.—Having sighted entrance of Dardanelles at 7 A.M., arrived off Gallipoli at 1½ P.M. Went on shore and saw Colonel Doyle, and called on General Canrobert. I here saw Marshal St. Arnaud embarking in his gig, and was introduced to him. His aide-decamp Colonel Trochu, who had sailed with us from Marseilles, here joined his chief. There was also on board a French Infantry Regiment, about 1100 strong, so that the decks were very much crowded and occupied all day and night. I here found "Trent" steamer, with my horses and Staff on board; I consequently changed to her, and sailed at 5 P.M. I must here observe that the officers of my Staff, viz., Major Mayow (Brigade-Major), Captain Lord Dupplin, and Lieutenant Maxse, my aides-decamp, my horses, servants, and their horses had embarked on 29th of April at Liverpool, on board the "British Queen," and sailed to Cork. They had a bad passage, and it appears that all hands were shipped to the "Trent" steamer, I believe at Malta. Lord Dupplin left Cork and joined me in London before I started to proceed by Marseilles, I having had permission to do so from Lord Hardinge, late General Commanding in Chief, who expressed himself to me as not anxious that Brigadier-Generals should sail to the seat of war in vessels conveying men about to be under their command.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Wednesday, 24th May.—Having anchored off Scutari at 11 A.M., I went on shore and walked on foot to see the review of the British troops on the Queen's birthday, and saw there Lord Raglan, and afterwards called upon him.

Thursday, 25th May.—Having anchored in the "Trent" off Coolalie, late yesterday evening, and put out my five horses and the others, this morning went back to Scutari in ship to unload luggage, and came up again in lighter.

Friday, 26th May.—I called on Lord Lucan, Lieut-General Commanding the Cavalry Division, on Wednesday evening, after my horses were put out of the ship, and dined with him yesterday; and to day dined in barracks with my staff and Captain Elliott, aide-de-camp to General Scarlett.

Saturday, 27th May.—Went to the bazaar for horses, and bought five pack horses; and I dined with the English Ambassador, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, at his palace. I had to pass the Bosphorus in a little caique, quite a small boat like a nutshell; and then had to ride up the steep streets of Constantinople on a hired pony, in full uniform of the 11th Hussars, my interpreter leading on a pony.

Sunday, 28th May.—Went to church parade, and saw men out in marching order.

Monday, 29th May.—Nothing unusual occurred. 7000 infantry, the 8th Hussars, and some artillery, embarked for Varna. I may here state, of the Cavalry Division only detachments of the 8th Hussars and 17th Lancers had arrived. As they belonged to my brigade, I lost no time in writing to the Adjutant-General to ask him to request Lord Raglan to let me proceed to the front with any cavalry which might be sent into Bulgaria; and I received the following letter from the Adjutant-General, as early as the day after I landed:

—
SCUTARI, 25th May, 1854.
MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

Lord Raglan approves quite of your going up with the 8th and 17th, in command of the Light Brigade of Cavalry.

Believe me,
Very truly yours,
J. W. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT.

Tuesday, 30th May.—Nothing unusual occurred. I was occupied preparing for embarkation for Varna.

Wednesday, 31st May.—A review of troops for the Sultan ordered for 12 o'clock. We were kept out till 3; the sun and heat being strong. There were two troops only of the 17th Lancers present at the review. The Lieut-General Commanding the Cavalry. I went to luncheon with Lord Raglan.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Thursday, 1st June.—I preparing for embarkation, remained at home,

Friday, 2nd June.—The 17th Lancers embarked to-day in five transports, viz.: I myself and Staff embarked in the "Emperor" steamer, and dined on board and slept there.

Saturday, 3rd June.—My horses were put on board at 7 A.M. Sailed at $\frac{1}{4}$ before 12, towing the "Edmonsbury" transport, with 17th Lancers on board. Met steamer returning with empty transports from Varna. Saw three men of war cruising. Previously to my embarkation at Coolalie, the following correspondence took place. The following Letter had been enclosed for me, without any instructions for the next morning. I had received none from Lord Lucan at a late hour in the evening, and I knew that none of the transports were adapted to carry extra officers, and could scarcely afford accommodation for the regimental officers accompanying their troops.

My DEAR LUCAN,

JUNE 1ST, 1854.

Lord Raglan wishes Lord Cardigan to proceed to Varna with 17th Lancers to-morrow; will you give him instructions accordingly?

Ever faithfully yours,

DE ROS.

Late in the evening, having received no instructions, I wrote the following Letter to the Quarter-Master-General.

My LORD, COOLALIE BARRACKS, 1st June, 1854.

I have had the pleasure to receive this evening your private communication to Major-General the Earl of Lucan, that it is the desire of His Excellency General Lord Raglan, that I should embark to-morrow for Varna at the same time with the 17th Lancers. As Lieut-Colonel Lawrenson informs me that all the accommodation in the five transports is required for the use of the 17th Lancers, I beg you will be so good as to inform me what vessel I myself and the officers of my Staff and 22 horses, including our baggage horses, our servants, and baggage, are to be embarked in, and as the time is short I beg to request the favour of an early reply.

I have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your most obedient Servant,

CARDIGAN,

Brigadier-General,

Commanding Light Cavalry Brigade.

The LORD DE ROS,

Deputy Quarter-Master-General,

&c. &c.

Upon which the "Jupiter" steamer was named by the Quarter-Master-General as a proper vessel to convey a General Officer and his Staff.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

I received the following Letter from my Superior Officer:—

(Private.)

COOLALIE, 2nd June, 1854.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

My Assistant Quarter-Master-General informs me that you have applied direct to the Deputy Quarter-Master-General for instructions respecting the embarkation of yourself and your Staff; it is obvious that the service cannot be carried out as it should be, and as in my Division I hope it will be, if a subordinate officer is allowed to pass over his immediate and responsible superior, and communicate direct with the General Commanding in Chief of the troops, or with any of his Departmental Officers. I am quite sure in this you will agree, and that you will not repeat what would be as inconvenient as irregular. I write privately, as, though I consider the errors deserving and requiring notice, I wish this, like all other communications between us, to be of the most friendly nature. I hope that the arrangements I made for your embarkation will be, as I intended them to be, as agreeable and convenient as they could be made.

Yours very truly,
LUCAN.

I afterwards received the following Note from Lord De Ros:—

MY DEAR CARDIGAN

2ND JUNE, 1854

It has all been settled with Captain Christie, and you will have excellent accommodation, yourself, Staff, and horses. Captain Cape, the master, is an excellent fellow, and will take good care of you.

Faithfully yours,
DE ROS.

Sunday, 4th June.—Anchored off Varna at about 6 a.m., having slackened steam in the night. Went on shore and reported myself to Sir George Brown, and dined with him.

Monday, 5th June.—I got into a house at Varna. The Light Division marched to its encampment outside the town. I rode to it and on to Devena, accompanied Sir G. Brown, who rode all the way. Dined on board "Bellerophon," commanded by Lord G. Paulet. The 8th Hussars marched to Devena.

Tuesday, 6th June.—Remained at Varna, and dined again on board the "Bellerophon," to meet Admiral Dundas and Sir Edmund Lyons.

Wednesday, 7th June.—Marched to Devena; the Lancers at 5 A.M. ; myself and Staff at 8. Rode forward with Brigade-Major Mayow. Very wet afternoon; baggage arrived at about 6½. I slept at a mill, over a beautiful stream running

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

by the side of the plain of Devena. I chose this on account of bronchitis, which I had frequently upon me; it being less exposed to the night damp, but close to my cavalry camp.

I received the following Letter on the morning of the 8th.

VARNA, 7th June, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I send you a Memorandum, which I think embraces all the points that it will be necessary for you to keep in view; but should there be any others on which you may be desirous to learn my opinion, you have only to ask, and I shall answer you to the best of my judgment, without hesitation. Placed where you are, I don't consider that there is much cause of apprehension; but it is always better to be prepared for accidents.

We have the remainder of the 8th in this morning, and they are now disembarking ; but as they came here straight from England, and are unprovided with baggage animals, we must, allow them some days to equip. Marshal St. Arnaud is also come in, but I have not yet seen him, nor have I heard when we are to expect Lord Raglan.

Yours, my dear Lord,

Very faithfully,

G. BROWN.

Memorandum for Lord Cardigan.

You will have the goodness to proceed as soon as convenient to Devena, where you will assume the command of the Light Cavalry, which it is my intention to put there for the purpose of connecting in, and keeping up the communication with, the Turkish Army at Shumla, and which is understood to have troops at Paravadi, and at Janibazaar.

The force, in the first instance, under your Lordship's command, will consist of the 8th Hussars and 17th Lancers, together with a corps of some 400 or 500 Turkish horse.

These latter have been ordered to detach a squadron to Bazardjick.

I should wish your Lordship to ascertain that they have done so, and that they are actually there; and also to direct that a small part of the same troops be placed at Kosludska. Should the enemy advance on Bazardjick, the cavalry would of course retire towards Devena, sending a few dragoons, however, on the direct road to Varna, in order to give notice to the French troops.

I have no reason to believe that the enemy's patroles have hitherto approached close to either Bazardjick or Kosludska; but, notwithstanding, it will be expedient, by posting of piquets and patroles, to watch closely every thing coming from the north, as well as to keep up the communication with the Turkish Army, and with the Camp of the Light Division at Aladin.

It is very desirable that the greater part, or as much as possible of the outpost duty, should, in the first instance, be performed by the Turkish Cavalry, in order to save our own, and by giving them rest, to enable the

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

horses to get into condition; but in the mean time, the officers should be required to proceed, accompanied by mixed patrols, early in the morning, in order to render themselves thoroughly acquainted with the neighbourhood, and with all the roads leading towards or near their camp.

One of the first Reports to be made will be that on the road leading to Varna by the south bank of the Upper Lake; that along the Lower Lake has already been examined throughout, but the road along the upper one and across the Paravadi river, has not yet been seen.

Your Lordship will be at liberty to encamp the Cavalry on the other side of the stream, should you prefer it; but you will have the goodness to keep in view, that in case of being pressed and obliged to retire, it will be desirable that you fall back on the Infantry Camp at Aladin, and that it is therefore desirable that they should be placed in such a manner as to secure their ready access to that route.

I have only further to recommend that you maintain a vigilant look-out in the neighbourhood of your camp, without harassing the Cavalry under your orders, and that you will have the goodness immediately to Report to me any information you may receive in regard to the movements or position of the enemy.

G. BROWN, General.

VARNA, 8th June, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I wish you would have the goodness to ascertain of the Commandant of the Turkish Cavalry, whether he would have any objection to let me have ten or twelve of his dragoons, to take charge of, and to conduct the trains of arabas, or bullock-waggons, carrying forage and provisions to our Camp. They might be selected from the oldest, worst mounted, and least efficient of his corps, and the duty they would have to perform would be neither hard nor degrading.

I want you also to send me the name of any officer in the two corps under your command who could be entrusted safely with a commission to purchase pack-horses for the Public Service. Lord Raglan wishes me to detach a number of them into the interior for that purpose, with a view, if possible, of procuring some 1800 horses of that description; and it seems to me that officers of cavalry should be selected for the duty in preference.

I had a very satisfactory Report from the Commandant as to the state of the country to the north and north-east of your post this morning, where it is stated that no enemy is anywhere to be seen.

Marshal St. Arnaud is here, but returns to-morrow to Constantinople, after visiting Bourges.

Yours, my dear Lord,

Very faithfully,

G. BROWN.

SIR, 8th June, 1854.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter, I have the honour of communicating to you all the information I have been able to collect with regard to what has occurred recently in the neighbourhood of Devena; and the steps which I have taken to obtain such information, and to guard against any danger or uncertainty to the troops placed under my command. I sent for the Commanding Officer of the Turkish cavalry regiment stationed here, this morning, and enquired particularly as to whether he had a squadron at Bazardjick; as I had been informed this morning by an officer of the 7th Fusiliers, sent (I understand by your orders) to reconnoitre that part of the country, that no Turkish cavalry were stationed at Bazardjick, and that a captain of the Turkish regiment of cavalry had informed Sir Thomas Troubridge, that he, being in command of a patrol in the neighbourhood of Bazardjick, had lost his regiment, and he believed they were gone in pursuit of Cossacks, who had a few day's since been plundering in the neighbourhood of Bazardjick; upon this, the Colonel informed me, that he had been much surprised not to have received any report from his detachment there for the last three days.

Bearing in mind your desire that a small post of Turkish cavalry should be stationed at Kosludska, I despatched a troop of Turkish cavalry there this afternoon, with orders to send out a patrol to-night in the direction of Bazardjick ; and I, at the same time, sent a patrol of the 8th Hussars under the orders of a captain, to bivouac at Kosludska to-night, and join a strong squadron of the Turkish cavalry, which will march from here at sunrise to-morrow morning, to support, or relieve in case of its safety, the Turkish squadron, supposed by their Commanding Officer to be stationed at Bazardjick. The patrol of the 8th Hussars is accompanied by an interpreter, and every information is to be obtained as to the state of the country, and transmitted to me by Turkish orderlies to-morrow evening. I have not yet posted any piquets or videttes, but I shall send out to-night patrols on the road to Kosludska, and also on the road which leads from Devena to Shumla, leaving Paroda on the left hand, with orders to relieve cavalry by daylight to-morrow morning. I also send a report of a patrol, which proceeded by the southern side of the lakes in the direction of Varna, from which it appears that the communication between Devena and Varna on that side is complete for the movement of troops. I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
CARDIGAN,
Brigadier- General, Commanding Light Cavalry Brigade.

Thursday, 8th June.—Sent a patrol of 8th Hussars, with a party of Turkish Cavalry, to Kosludska and Bazardjick; and sent out two parties on piquet and outpost duty at night; and I slept in my tent

Friday, 9th June.—Sent out patrols on the Kosludska and Bazardjick roads, at night and before sunrise.

VARNA, 9th June.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

My DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I have your Report and private Letter of yesterday, and to thank you for them, and from all that appears, as well as from previous reports, I am not disposed to believe you have much to apprehend at Devena from anything coming northwards. It is not stated by Troubridge that any one has ever seen Cossacks near Bazardjick; and, in the absence of all ocular demonstration, I am inclined to disbelieve that they have ever been so far up.

I shall be glad to hear of the safe return of the Turkish patrol, which I trust will not go too far in pursuit of what after all may most likely turn out to be a mere shadow. One mistake has already been made in regard to Cossacks, some of which were stated to be in a place some forty miles to the northward of this, but when the matter came to be investigated, it turned out that they were Cossacks in the Turkish service. The remainder of the 8th have landed in excellent order, but having come straight from England, will require some days to equip before they can be sent on to you.

I have no news for you, only that the Marshal sailed this morning on his return to Constantinople.

Yours very faithfully,

G. BROWN.

Brigadier-General THE EARL OF CARDIGAN, Commanding at Devena.

Saturday, 10th June.—Sent out a patrol to Kosludska to meet patrol of 8th Hussars of the 8th instant. Did not patrol the other road. Last night a very wet night.

Received the following Letter from Officer commanding the Patrol:—

KOSLUDSKA, 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ P.M.

MY LORD, Saturday, 10th June, 1854.

I have the honour to report the arrival this day of the detachment under my command at this place. I shall remain here to-night, and proceed to Devena Camp early to-morrow.

I forward this by two Turkish orderlies.

I have the honour to be,

B. TOMKINSON.

Captain 8th Hussars.

CAMP AT DEVENA, 10th June, 1854.

I have the honour to state, for your information, that I have this morning received a report from the Captain, who I sent with a patrol of the 8th Hussars, on the 8th instant, to Kosludska and Bazardjick, stating that he has been informed by the Turkish officer in command of a detachment of cavalry there, that the town of Bazardjick has been uninhabited for the last two months; that one-third of the town is standing, one-third tumbled down, and one-third burnt down. No information could be obtained as to any Cossacks, or any other force of Russian cavalry having been in the neighbourhood of Bazardjick, or in any part of the country around it.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
CARDIGAN,
Brigadier- General, Commanding Light Cavalry Brigade.

Sunday, 11th June.—Had Divine Service in front of Camp at 10 A.M. Patrol from Kosludska and Bazardjick returned this morning at daylight. Patrols went out to Kosludska and Jasytepe at 3½ A.M., on the night of Sunday.

VARNA, 11th June.
MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I will thank you to request the Turkish Commandant to send in the twelve dragoons immediately, and to desire them to report on their arrival to Mr. Deputy Commissary-General Ramsay.

Colonel Shewell has recommended Lieutenant Phillips, of the 8th, as a fit person to be detached for the purpose of purchasing horses, and I will thank you to warn him to be in readiness to proceed to Aidos, or some of the towns on the other side of the Balkan, for that purpose, as soon as I can find an interpreter to accompany him.

Yours, my dear Lord, faithfully,
G. BROWN.

VARNA, 11th June, 1854.
MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I am much obliged to you for your Note and Report of yesterday, which are very satisfactory ; and at your desire return Captain Tomkinson's letter.
Yours very faithfully,
G. BROWN.

Copy of Captain Tomkinson's Report.
BAZARDJICK, 3½ P.M.

MY LORD, Friday, June 9th, 1854.

I have the honour to Report that the detachment under my command arrived here at 2½ P.M. The officer in command of the Turkish troop here states that he has been here a week, and that since he has been here no one has been living in this town, and he understands that it has been uninhabited for about two months. About one-third of the town is standing, one-third tumbled or fallen down, and one-third burnt down.

I have failed to discover any person living in the place, though we have met several people in the streets, who state that they have come in from neighbouring villages to see if they can recover any of their property that they lost when they deserted the town.

We also passed a good many people with waggons on our road to-day, coming for the same purpose. A troop of Turkish cavalry passed through Kosludska this morning, without our knowing it until they had passed. I therefore waited till 7J A.M., and came on here with the escort that accompanied me yesterday. We caught the first detachment up about halfway, and came on together. The officer in command here states that he has neither

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

heard nor seen anything of the enemy during his week's stay, and I have not been able to learn anything of their movements from any one whom we have met. From the fact that several waggons that we passed to-day were intending to proceed to villages north of this place, it would seem that the Russians are not supposed to be in this neighbourhood.

I send this by the Turkish officer who with his troop is being relieved by those who came from Devena this morning.

There were two men and horses left at Kosludska this morning to take this letter on when it arrives there. I shall return to Kosludska to-morrow, and remain there the night, unless I have orders to the contrary.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,
Your obedient Servant,
E. TOMKINSON,
Captain 8th Hussars.

Monday, 12th June.—Patrols came in at 7 and 8 o'clock. Stayed at home all day. Intense heat. Sent out patrols in the evening.

CAMP, ALADIN, 12th June.
MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I came out here this morning to see the Infantry and Artillery march out with their baggage, and learnt from Sir Thomas Troubridge, whose servant had gone out in that direction, that some French Sappers had appeared behind the Devena river, about five miles in the direction of Paravadi, and reported that their Cavalry were coming up, and were within 20 miles of them. This I cannot believe, because Canrobert has said nothing to me on the subject, but would be very glad if you would have the goodness to send a patrol in that direction, and ascertain the point. I shall take care to complete both the 8th and 17th with bat horses, but I have no pack saddles. An interpreter has been sent for your Lordship from Constantinople, whom I have ordered to be equipped with horses and sent up to you without delay.

Yours very faithfully,
G. BROWN.

Tuesday, 13th June.—There were daily patrols sent out the whole of the week, towards Kosludska and Jasyteppe, an hour before sunset, and an hour before sunrise.

CAMP, ALADIN, 13th June, 1854.
DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

General Brown was here this morning for an hour or so. On his departure, he begged me to write a line to your Lordship, to request you would have the goodness to Report this evening to him, on the state of the ovens under construction at Devena.

I hear that the Austrians have positively marched 4000 men into the Wallachian Provinces. Lord Raglan is quite well again, and most anxious to come on. The brigade of Guards and Highlanders are to reach Varna to-morrow, in few days occupying ground, and the Light Division will proceed to

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

the high ground about Devnar. My letter-party are now all on the road, so that the bearer of your Report to Brown must go on to Varna, but I should be obliged if he would call here *chemin faisant*.

Believe me,

My dear Lord,

Very faithfully yours,
RICHARD AIREY.

Wednesday, 14th June.—Patrols as usual.

Thursday, 15th June.—Rode out with Colonel Lawrenson and Lord Dupplin towards Paschant, beyond Kosludska. Captain Simmons, from Shumla, called on me in the morning. Very wet afternoon.

VARNA, 15th June, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I wish you would have the goodness to send me in to-morrow Lieutenant Phillips, of the 8th. I want to detach him to Paravadi, for the purpose of purchasing pack horses, and must have him here to give him money. He need not bring on his baggage here, as he will have to pass by your camp to get to his station. We have the whole of the First Division here with his Royal Highness, and most of the Infantry are already disembarked. Two troops of the 13th have also arrived, and will disembark in the course of this day. I hope to send you on the other squadron of the 8th to-morrow, or the day after. They have been quite ready for some time, and are only detained for half-a-dozen pack saddles! This comes of doing things by halves! I fear there has been some sad neglect on the Commissariat, in respect to the construction of the ovens at Devena, and that Lord Raglan will be very much displeased to find that nothing has been done ; but I, who see what is passing, and how utterly incompetent and inefficient they are, only wish this may be the only instance in which his Lordship is destined to meet with disappointment.

The 5th Dragoon Guards have landed in beautiful condition, but are very green. I have no orders as to their disposal, but it will be some days before they are in a state

to move.

Yours, my dear Lord,

Very faithfully,

G. BROWN.

Friday, 16th June.—Rode into Varna and back, and saw Sir George Brown. Lord Raglan had been there, and had gone to the Fleet in Kavama Bay. I saw the Duke of Cambridge.

VARNA, 16th June, 1854.

It is very desirable to ascertain whether the stream, which appears by the map to take its rise in the neighbourhood of Bazardjick, and runs into the Danube near Silistria, is continuous as far as the village of Kanara, and it is

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

proposed to push a patrol from Bazardjick to that place or near it, and to direct that they return by the road to the west of that, leading through Sarineba Truletchela, Gambarlik Karamand, and Jossytip.

G. BROWN.

Sir, CAMP, VARNA, 16th June, 1854.

I have the honour to request that you will lay the following case before the General, Sir G. Brown, in order that the subject be again brought before General Lord Raglan, commanding the Army. The case is accurately described by Lieut-Colonel Lawrenson and Major De Salis, and I can add my testimony to the absolute impossibility of carrying the luggage of a regiment of two squadrons upon 14 bât horses. It has been found beyond a doubt that a bât horse cannot carry five tents. After the regimental tents, to the number of 23, have been packed upon six bat horses, there being the vacant space of one tent only, the following articles have to be carried, for which no provision whatever is made, amounting to 408½ lb. per troop, or 1634 lb. for the two squadrons. The greatest weight a bât horse can carry is 300 lb.; taking, therefore, four more bât horses, the number decided upon by the Board at Coolalu, and submitted to Lord Raglan, there

still remains 400 lb. of baggage to be carried, which might be distributed over the six tent bât horses, in addition to four tents on each. This is practicable; but to carry regimental baggage on 14 bât horses, is impossible, and

the baggage will have to be thrown away, or left on the road.

I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient Servant,

CARDIGAN,

Brigadier-General, Commanding Light Cavalry Brigade.

Saturday, 17th June.—I rode over to Aladin to see inspection of the First Division, by the Duke of Cambridge and General Canrobert. They did not come. Sent patrol of 8th and Turks to Kanara.

Sunday, 18th June.—Church parade at 10 A.M. Heard Second Division, under Sir De Lacy Evans, had arrived at Varna.

VARNA, 18th June, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I am much obliged to you for what you have done in respect to the patrol to Kanara, and hope Captain Tomkinson may keep his eyes open.

I mean to ride out early to-morrow to my camp with the Duke of Cambridge, and afterwards to go on to Devena, to mark out the ground for the new camp.

I have been thinking of placing the Heavy Dragoons near where you now are, and pushing your people over to the other side of the plain, as you propose, half a mile or so further. I would leave the troop of Horse Artillery, which will go up in a few days with the Heavies, and if it were to rest with me, I should keep the Light Cavalry at the outposts. It will probably not rest with

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

me to decide whether the whole of the Cavalry shall be united, or where Lord Lucan may encamp; but of this you may rest assured that if it is, I shall endeavour to make such an arrangement as shall be the most agreeable to your Lordship, provided I can do so without any sacrifice of the interests of the public service.

We propose being in camp to-morrow by 9, and I dare say I shall be at Devena soon after 12, when I shall like to meet you, if you can contrive to be in camp about that time, without subjecting yourself to inconvenience.

Yours, my dear Lord,

Very faithfully,

G. BROWN.

Monday, 19th June.—Sir George Brown came over from Varna, and marked out ground for Light Division encampment, and had luncheon with me.

Tuesday, 20th June.—Shifted my camp three-quarters of a mile to the front, and formed the Turks on its left.

VARNA, 20th June, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

The bearer, Captain Gambier, of the Artillery, has been ordered to Shumla, accompanied by our Officer of the Commissariat, for the purpose of purchasing horses, and as they have some money with them, I have deemed it necessary to send with them an escort of the 13th Light Dragoons.

These I propose shall remain in your camp till they are joined by the squadron from hence, and I will thank you to furnish them with an escort of Turkish Dragoons, to see them safe to the end of their journey, and then to return to Devena.

Yours, my dear Lord,

Very faithfully,

G. BROWN.

Wednesday, 21st June.—Fifth Dragoon Guards and detachment of 13th Light Dragoons marched into camp. Patrol returned from Kanara, not having found any water. Baggage of the 13th Light Dragoons arrived very late. Men bivouacked on the ground.

Thursday, 22nd June.—Major-General Airey, Deputy Quarter-Master-General, and Brigade-Major Mackenzie, called upon me.

VARNA, 22nd June, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

I am much obliged to you for the offer of the house, but have no intention whatever of disturbing you.

If I go into one, any where, it will probably be in the village. For the present, however, I am likely to be detained here on a Board, which has been ordered

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

to assemble for the purpose of considering the great question of transport and its organization. The Horse Artillery are still without some of their spare carriages and horses, which is the reason they did not accompany the 5th Dragoon Guards yesterday. By the way, you must turn an eye to the latter, as well as from now, until Scarlett arrives, which I understand will not be before half his regiment has got up. Lord Lucan is now here, but I have not heard anything of his destination. I am induced, however, to think he will remain here for the present. Lord Raglan is looking extremely well, and in excellent spirits. There can, I conceive, be no possible objection whatever to the arrangement you propose in regard to the tents of the 8th. The Commanding Officer should ask permission of De Ros, to deliver them into store, as when he has got it, or before, there can be no harm in making the interchange you mention.

I am getting to be anxious respecting Captain Tomkinson's Report, and hope you may lose no time in sending it when it arrives, which it ought to do this morning. Yours, my dear Lord,

Very faithfully,
G. BROWN.

Friday, 23rd June.—Took three regiments, including squadrons of 13th Light Dragoons, out in complete marching order, at 6½ A.M. Lord Lucan and Staff came on the ground and inspected the Brigade, and afterwards the 5th Dragoon Guards in watering order.

Saturday, 24th June.—Colonel Wilbraham, of the 7th Fusiliers, called on me on return from Silistria, and reported that Silistria was likely to fall. The usual patrols from my camp.

VARNA, 24th June, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

Pray have the goodness to thank Captain Tomkinson for his Report, and for the trouble he has taken in carrying out my instructions. He has shown great intelligence, and nothing could be better than the account he gives of his patrol. Head-quarters being now here, I have of course nothing more to do with the movement of the troops, but I have recommended De Ros to send on the Horse Artillery and 13th on Monday, to Devena, and that the 11th should follow them as soon as they are ready. The question in regard to the conveyance of the kits of dismounted men, I have put forward, through Lord Lucan, to whom all questions in regard to the interior management of the Cavalry should be henceforth addressed.

Prince Napoleon has just arrived, and also a part of our Third Division of Infantry from Gallipoli.

Yours, my dear Lord,
Very faithfully,
G. BROWN.

VARNA, 24th June, 1854.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

Since writing to you an hour ago, I have received Lord Raglan's directions to request that you will have the goodness to send us in thirty (30) Turkish Dragoons for employment in the Commissariat, under charge of one of their subordinate officers; and desire, on their arrival here, that they report themselves to Mr. Deputy Commissary-General Ramsay, who has instructions how to dispose of them.

I will thank you to explain to the Commandant, with my compliments, that it is in consequence of the former detachment having behaved so well, and rendered themselves so useful in conducting our trains into the several camps, that this additional number has been required, and that he may rest assured that their good conduct will not be allowed to go unnoticed or unrequited.

Yours, my dear Lord,

Very faithfully,

G. BROWN.

They may be chosen as the last were, from the least efficient portion of the corps, and the worst mounted.

G. B.

RECONNOISSANCE.

Sunday, 25th June, 1854.—This morning, at 5 o'clock, Lord Burghersh, Aide-de-camp to Lord Raglan, arrived on horseback from Varna, and came immediately to my bedroom, in a mill, placed across a pretty and limpid stream, which runs down the valley by the side of the village of Devena. In a plain below that village the encampment of part of the Light Cavalry Brigade had been placed, consisting of the 8th Hussars, the 13th Light Dragoons, and the 17th Lancers.

Lord Burghersh was accompanied by Colonel Poulett Somerset, and informed me that the Russian army had raised the siege of Silistria, and that it was not known in what direction they had marched, whether towards Varna or in retreat. Lord B. also delivered to me the following written instructions.

HEAD QUARTERS, VARNA,

June 24, 1854, 11 P.M.

The Earl of Cardigan will proceed in person early tomorrow to Bazardjick, with two squadrons of cavalry, carrying with them three days' provisions and forage ; take with him from thence the whole of the Turkish Cavalry stationed there, and proceed with the least possible delay towards Karasu, in order to ascertain the movements of the enemy. Forage and provisions will be sent for his party, including the Turkish cavalry, from hence to Bazardjick, by the usual route early to-morrow, await his arrival, and follow his movements.
RAGLAN.

In consequence of the great delay which took place in drawing three days' forage, and cooking three days' rations, we did not leave Devena until half-

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

past nine in the forenoon. The troops consisted of one squadron of the 8th Hussars of 121 horses, and about 75 horses of the 13th Light Dragoons, only part of that corps having arrived. I refrained from taking a squadron of that fine regiment, the 17th Lancers, because their lances would be so conspicuous on patrol; but I afterwards discovered that nothing could render the entire brigade more conspicuous than the white cap cover with which all the regiments were equipped.

Passing Kosludska, we arrived at Bazardjick at half-past seven in the evening, uncertain whether we might find the enemy there or not. We bivouacked amid the ruins of the place, which is in sad decay. About half a dozen inhabitants alone remained, and one of them is styled the mayor. Our meal was spread on a couple of rough pieces of wood, and consisted of salt pork and biscuits, and brandy and water. I pitched my small tent in the yard of the house; Lord Burghersh, Colonel Somerset, and my aides-de-camp, Viscount Dupplin and Lieutenant Maxse, slept in an old room without doors or windows. The starving cats and dogs wandered about in dozens, seeking food; but the horses were for the most part under sheds or cover of some sort.

Monday, 26th June.—Marched out early this morning on the road to Karage, but halted at a fountain about two hours from Bazardjick, in consequence of receiving information that there was not sufficient water for the horses at Karage. Sent Captain Lockwood and Lieutenant Lord Fitzgibbon forward with a small Turkish patrol to ascertain the correctness of the statement. They had a long ride, not returning to Bazardjick until between 10 and 11 o'clock, when they brought confirmation of the report that the water was insufficient, and that there was no means at hand for drawing it from the wells.

I returned from the fountain with the remainder of the patrol, and again bivouacked at Bazardjick, retiring for the night about 12 o'clock. Two commissariat men reported that some Russians had attempted to stop them about 7 in the evening, asking what force the English had in the town, &c. A sentry, who was stationed on a small hill near head-quarters, asserted that he saw and heard large bodies of Russians moving in the neighbourhood. In consequence of this report, I had to turn out the detachment, and the whole party came on parade in marching order in twenty minutes. One troop of the 13th Light Dragoons loaded in the town, the other being in support; whilst of the 8th Hussars, one troop was in advance outside the town, the other supporting. I also posted videttes, with an inlying piquet to be relieved every hour; thus keeping as good a lookout as was possible: the remainder of the piquet were turned in. Lord Burghersh had left very early this morning, on his return to Varna direct; and Colonel P. Somerset by way of Devena, from which place I mounted him on a bât horse to Varna.

Tuesday, 27th June.—Lord Burghersh having gone to Varna yesterday, came back at 5 o'clock this morning, accompanied by Captain Woodford of the Quarter-Master-General's department. I was on the point of moving when Lord Burghersh arrived, bringing with him a letter from Lord Raglan, to the following effect.

VARNA, 26th June, 1854.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

Burghersh has just returned, and informs me that you were to march this morning to Karage, which appears by the map to be a good deal to the right of the direct road to Karasu; near which direct road there must, I apprehend, be villages, judging also from the map. If, as you advance, you find great difficulty in procuring water, I leave to your discretion to send or take on a small portion of your squadrons, placing the remainder where there may be water and grass for the horses. As you approach to where the enemy may be, the lighter your front, depend upon it, the better. As soon as you have ascertained that the Russians are no longer on this side the Danube you will dispatch an officer to me, and move back your troops in the way least inconvenient to them. I will send you further provision of supplies by Captain Hamilton, and this will be delivered to you by Burghersh, who is anxious to be again with you.

Yours very faithfully,
RAGLAN.

Captain Woodford having left, on his return to Varna, we marched off about 8 o'clock in the morning, and having arrived at the fountain from which we had returned on the previous day, we watered the horses, and then took the left and main road to Karasu, which is nothing but a desert track. We reached Musabeg, a village in ruins, about 7 in the evening, after having scoured the country by the aid of the Turkish cavalry who were with me, a number of mounted men having been reported in sight. We obtained barely sufficient water for the horses from a brook, and bivouacked on adjoining high ground, amid the ruins of old houses and cottages.

In the course of the day, and when about two hours from Bazardjick, we found a large band of Bashi-Bazouks under the command of a lady. I paid her a visit, and had some coffee. She stated that she was on a march to Karasu; and it appears they passed by Karage.

Wednesday, 28th June.—Left our encampment this morning at an early hour, and arrived at Kasa-mach in the afternoon, after a long and tedious march over a desert track, in which the horses were sometimes obliged to pass in single files. This was the case especially in the valley near Kasa-mach, which was also very difficult to find. At the place of our encampment in the valley were three large fountains of very pure water, and the spot was surrounded by abrupt and lofty hills.

In the course of the night, some stallions in the commissariat lines broke loose, and rushing into our lines, frightened our horses so much that eleven or twelve of them broke away from their pickets. We ultimately recovered all but two.

Thursday, 29th June.—Rode to-day, accompanied by Lord Burghersh, my aide-de-camp Lord Dupplin, and small patrol of the 13th Light Dragoons, to

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Karasu. On arriving there, about three in the afternoon, found the ground occupied by Bashi-Bazouks. Their chief informed me that the Russians had entirely quitted that part of the country, having retired through Babadagh in the direction of Tolkstoi, and that he and his party were to follow on their line of retreat on the following day, by order of Omar Pacha. We partook of coffee in the tent of the Bashi-Bazouk chief, and quitted Karasu on our return about half-past 4 o'clock, P.M. I had left Lieutenant Maxse at Kasamach, that his horse might be fresh to carry a despatch to Lord Raglan at Varna on the following day, reporting that the Russians had retreated through the Dobrudscha. In that despatch I mentioned that I should take upon myself to return by Silistria and Shumla, after visiting Rassova and patrolling along the banks of the Danube. We arrived at Kasamach from Karasu at half-past 10 P.M., leaving the patrol of the 13th Light Dragoons which had accompanied us, and also Lord Burghersh, who desired to stay with them at Muckmuskoi.

Friday, 30th June.—This forenoon wrote the despatch to Lord Raglan above alluded to, and sent it off by Lieutenant Maxse on horseback, with instructions to go direct to Varna. In the afternoon I marched with sixty horses of the 8th Hussars and a similar number of the 13th Light Dragoons, to Muckmuskoi, leaving Captain Long-more of the 8th Hussars and his troop at Kasamach, that he might try to recover some of the horses which were lost on the night of Wednesday.

Saturday, 1st July.—Captain Jenyns, of the 13th Light Dragoons, rode into the neighbourhood of Rassova in the night, or rather very early in the morning, accompanied by a Turkish guide. He returned and reported to me between seven and eight o'clock, whilst at breakfast, that there was a force near Rassova, and that he believed them to be Russians; that the guide had jumped about directly he saw them, exclaiming "Russ," "Russ." Marched in about an hour from this time with two squadrons rank entire, and a squadron of Turkish cavalry.

When near Rassova, met the chief of a large irregular corps of cavalry, the 9th Corps, commanded by a Frenchman, who confirmed the reports previously made to me that the Russians had entirely quitted the south side of the Danube, and had retired to the north of the Dobrudscha, and that none of them were to the east towards Kus-tendjie. He also stated that a body of Cossacks had retired a few days before, and that a small number of them were bivouacking on the opposite side of the Danube. We encamped on low ground on the banks of that magnificent river, the hills above afforded an extensive prospect of the widely extended plains of Wallachia. I had the troop horses watered in the Danube, and then induced the French Colonel to send a messenger to Kasa-mach, with orders for Captain Longmore and his troop to join me on the following day. The Commissariat did very well in accompanying us and supplying us with rations and forage.

Sunday, 2nd July.—Had Divine Service in the course of the morning; Captain Jenyns reading the same. Captain Longmore and party arrived from Kasamach late in the afternoon, having passed by Muckmuskoi, not finding

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

any shorter route practicable. He had succeeded in recovering several more of the stray horses. We bivouacked again on the same spot as before, but about 3 o'clock in the morning (Monday) were suddenly roused from sleep.

I posted sentries on the banks of the Danube opposite the Cossack encampment, and they declared that a boatfull of Cossacks was drifting down the stream, close to the banks on our side. Being dressed, having slept on a sofa wrapped in a cloak, I instantly turned out the guard, strengthened by the stable guards (about 76 files), made them load, and marched them out. I could not see anything, although a corporal corroborated the evidence of the sentry. After waiting some time and visiting the Bashi-Bazouk guard on the hill, I ordered the party in, taking the precaution, however, to post videttes on the high ground above and alongside the Danube, with instructions what signals to give in case of any further alarm. Lord Burghersh, and my aide-de-camp Lord Dupplin, turned out quickly. I afterwards learned that some boats had drifted down the rapid stream of the Danube in the night, from one set of mills to another mill, being moored just off our bivouack. I left a lame troop horse under the care of the French Consul of the 9th Irregular Corps.

Monday, 3rd July.—Marched off at noon, and arrived at Altona village about 7 o'clock. It was a very dreary evening, and we had a late and tiresome bivouac, but the men had good fires in the camp, although it was late before the rations could be cooked after a 6½ hours' march. Soon after leaving Rassova we lost sight of the Danube, which we did not again see until the following day.

Tuesday, 4th July.—Left at half-past 4 o'clock in the morning, after a very wet night, and went a long and laborious march, called 7½ hours, but much more, over extremely hilly, slippery, and rough ground to Silistria. Saw the ruins of the bridge which the Russians had erected across the Danube, but which they had destroyed prior to their retreat. Passed through all the upper forts and redoubts near the town, and bivouacked on indifferent ground near the fort at the extreme end of the town, with a very heavy shower of rain descending upon us.

Ishmael Pacha came down to see me; and when we had half arranged the bivouac, said he thought it right to inform me that we were bivouacking just within range of a Russian battery on the opposite side of the river, which was certainly very apparent. He also remarked that he could not answer for the Russians not firing at us, as they would see by our white cap covers that we were foreign troops. But we did not remove, nor were we fired at. The authorities gave us an apartment in the town, and supplied us with dinner, provisions, and wine. A staff officer dined with us, and stated that he was going across on the following day with a flag of truce to General Luders.

On leaving Altona in the morning, we passed through some low marshy ground with high reeds and rushes over our heads. There were also many very wide dykes. We again came to the Danube, near where the bridge was to be seen. As we marched along, we saw the Russian army, under General

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Luders, encamped on the plains of Wallachia, not far from the banks of the river.

Wednesday, 5th July.—Called upon Ishmael Pacha this morning, with Lord Burghersh and an aide-de-camp. Having obtained an officer to accompany us, we went to see the forts, and particularly that of Arab Tahib, so celebrated for its long and vigorous defence by the Turks, and which the Russians never could succeed in taking. Met several French and other foreign officers.

Heard to-day that General Luders had enquired respecting ourselves, as to what cavalry had arrived yesterday, and had been told that it was a Russian reconnaissance. The town of Silistria had been very much damaged by the siege, but no repairs of the forts or redoubts had been commenced. I left a troop horse here with fever in the feet, by permission of Ishmael Pacha.

Thursday, 6th July.—Marched off at about half-past 4 o'clock this morning, and arrived at a place with a large fountain at 11, (6½ hours march,) through an uninteresting wooded country. Could not find the name of this place on any map.

Friday, 7th July.—Left our encampment at half-past 4 o'clock this morning, and reached a place with a pond and a fountain at 11, a march of about 6½ hours, a French gentleman accompanying us. The scene of our bivouac was a picturesque one, with abundance of wood for firing; but the name of the place could not be found in any of the maps.

Saturday, 8th July.—Commenced our march at half-past 4 o'clock this morning, and reached Shumla at noon. Bivouacked near the ramparts, although I found a house ready prepared, and a guard ordered, by Omar Pacha, Dined with the French traveller and the Marquis La Tour du Pin at a restaurant; my aide-de-camp Lord Dupplin with me. Lord Burghersh had left me in the morning, on line of march to return to Varna. Lieutenant Maxse came over from Devena.

Sunday, 9th July.—Breakfasted with Captain Simmons, and inspected some of the fortifications, but I regret to say, not minutely. From its situation, Shumla is naturally a very strong place, and the surrounding country is grand and bold. Attended by Captain Simmons, I called upon Omar Pacha. Dined in my tent, and retired early to bed, not feeling well. My aides-de-camp dined at the restaurants, but Lord Dupplin became so ill from that day that he went home invalided immediately afterwards. We had fared very badly between Silistria and Shumla, having scarcely anything but tea and water, our stock of brandy being exhausted. Lieutenant Maxse brought us a fresh supply to Shumla with him.

Monday, 10th July.—Marched again at half-past 4 o'clock this morning from Shumla, and bivouacked at Janibazar, on low ground, until 8 o'clock in the evening, and then marched all night, by Jasyteppe and Kotlubee, to Devena,

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

an eight hours' march. The men dined, dressed, and fed their horses at Janibazar.

Tuesday, 11th July.—Arrived at Devena at 3 o'clock this morning, having had a very cool and pleasant night I addressed the officers and men, thanking the former for their zeal and activity on all occasions, and telling the latter that barring a few irregularities at Shumla, of which I should take no further notice, they had conducted themselves remarkably well. Nothing could exceed the zeal and activity of the officers, and the good conduct of the men during this tedious march. This may be said to have been the first occasion for many years, when English cavalry had been called upon to bivouac in the open air, exposed to the cold and damp of the night, after the extreme heat of the sun in the day time. Officers and men bivouacked in the open air for 17 nights. I had a small tent about six feet square, just large enough to cover a spring sofa bed. Lord Dupplin had rather a larger tent, in which he and Lieutenant Maxse, and frequently Lord Burghersh, slept. We were always dressed, and ready to turn out.

The following is the additional Order I received from Sir George Brown, previous to marching from Devena, on the 25th of June.

VARNA, 24th June, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

Accounts have just been received, that the enemy have raised the siege of Silistria, and retreated beyond the Danube. With us, there seems reason to believe that a portion have gone down the right bank, into Dobrudscha. Lord Raglan is desirous you should proceed, in person, with a patrol through Bazardjick, in the direction of Karasu, in order to ascertain the fact. From Bazardjick, you will carry with you the whole of the Turkish cavalry stationed there ; and the Commissariat have been instructed to push on forage and provisions for the whole three squadrons for three or four days, to that place. Arrived at Karasu, you will patrol with small parties to the left, towards the Danube, until you either fall in with the enemy's posts, or ascertain the direction of his march; and you will send back reports direct to Varna, by means of Turkish dragoons, which you had better leave at Bazardjick, and drop on the road for that purpose. The patrol will, of course, leave their tents in camp, and take nothing with them that is not carried on their horses.

You will observe that, by this arrangement, you will have forage and provisions for six or seven days, as the mules will be able to follow your motions at such safe distance in the rear of the troops, as you may direct. It is unnecessary for me to remind your Lordship of the necessity of caution and circumspection in the performance of this important duty, and assure you of Lord Raglan's full confidence that you will conduct it with prudence, intelligence, and success.

Yours, my dear Lord,

Very faithfully,

G. BROWN.

On the 30th of June, I addressed the following Letter to Lord Raglan, and despatched Lieutenant Maxse with it.

BIVOUAC AT KOSOWACH,

My LORD,

30TH JUNE, 1854.

I have the honour to inform you, that having received a message from your Lordship, through your aide-de-camp, on the 25th instant, at 5 o'clock A.M., directing me to patrol with two squadrons of the brigade under my command, to Karasu, near Trajan's Wall, that I have performed that duty, and found no part of the Russian army in the neighbourhood; and the only information I could obtain, was, that it had retreated by Babadagh, in the direction of Tolskstoi, and that no part of it remains towards the east of Karasu, in the direction of Kustendjie.

I beg to state, that having received your Lordship's orders at 5 o'clock A.M., on the 25th instant, I was not able to move off the patrol until half-past 9, in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining three days' forage and three days' rations cooked for the men. But having reached Bazardjick at half-past 7, I was informed that the best road to Karasu was through Karage, but that there was great doubt whether there was sufficient water there for the horses; which doubt having been much strengthened the following day, I returned to Bazardjick, sending a small patrol under an officer, who reported that water was not to be got, on account of the depth of the wells.

Intending to advance in another direction on the following day, I received your Lordship's instructions at 5 o'clock A.M., on the 27th instant, to patrol what appears by the map to be the main road to Karasu, but which road, I beg to inform your Lordship, is nothing but a desert track of the wildest sort, over which scarcely a cart can ever have passed, cavalry being obliged frequently to move in single files over very difficult ground. I may further state, to prove the difficulty of obtaining any information in this country, that except about half a dozen inhabitants in the ruins of Bazardjick, I have never seen a human being since we left Kosludska, about six miles from Devena, although we have patrolled over more than an hundred miles of ground since that place. All the villages are entirely uninhabited, and the houses have all been burnt, or allowed to tumble down.

On Thursday, the 27th instant, I bivouacked at Musabeg, and came on the following day to this place, where we have bivouacked for two nights. I yesterday proceeded with a small patrol to Karasu, which place I found like all the rest of the country, uninhabited ; consisting of a bridge at the end of a lake, near Trajan's Wall—the lake being a continuation of other lakes.

I here found eight hundred Bashi-Bazouks, whom I had previously seen on the line of march from Bazardjick. I was informed by their chief, that the Russians had retreated some days since by Babadagh, and that he had been ordered by His Highness Omar Pacha to hang upon their rear, and he was to march on Babadagh this morning.

I beg to add, that it is my intention to bivouac in the front of this place to-night, for the purpose of patrolling with a squadron towards Rassova early to-

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

morrow morning ; where, if I can obtain any further information with regard to the Russian army along the right bank of the Danube, I will transmit it to your Lordship by a messenger from the Turkish cavalry. I forward this letter by an officer according to your directions, and my aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Maxse, is the bearer of it, attended by a guard from the Turkish cavalry.

I beg to report also, that up to the present time, the Commissariat have furnished supplies of forage and rations very regularly, in the almost wilderness in which we have been moving.

I have the honour, &c,

CARDIGAN,

Brigadier-General, Commanding Light Cavalry Brigade, and Cavalry Patrol in Bulgaria.

P.S.—I beg to state, that the regiment of Turkish cavalry, which your Lordship placed under my command at Devena, has rendered me every assistance in the most willing manner, and as they alone could furnish in this wild uninhabited country in which we have been marching.

C, Brig.-Gen.

It is to be observed with regard to the performance of the duties of the Reconnoissance, that it was absolutely necessary to march the distances we daily marched, as in a desert country where water is so scarce, no fountains were to be found at any intermediate places.

The following is a second Letter which I wrote to Lord Raglan, on July 2nd, and sent by two Turkish orderlies to Varna.

BIVOUAC NEAR RASSOVA,
My LORD, 2nd July, 1854.

In accordance with the statement I had the honour to make to your Lordship on the 30th ultimo, I changed the bivouac of my patrol on the 1st instant, and yesterday patrolled to this place, about two miles from Rassova, on the banks of the Danube. On our approach, there appeared to be a considerable number of troops, but which proved to be the 9th Regiment of Irregular Turkish Cavalry. The commander of them, who is a Frenchman, informed me that a party of Russians and some Cossack cavalry had only retired from their position within the last few days ; indeed there are small parties of Cossacks now bivouacking on the other side of the Danube, just opposite the position of my patrol.

The French officer informs me that the whole of the Russian army lately besieging Silistria retreated over the bridge at that place, and that a large Russian camp, in the neighbourhood of Silistria, has since been broken up ; he states also that about 16,000 Russians were stationed on this side of the Danube, near to Rassova, all of whom have retired in the direction of Babadagh, with the supposed intention of retiring beyond the Pruth. A report was brought in yesterday that the Russians had also evacuated Hirsova.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

As I do not consider it of any use to repass the desert country which I have already crossed, it is my intention to patrol along the line of the Danube to Silistria, and thence to Devena by the direct road to Shumla, which arrangement I trust your Lordship will not disapprove of. I am aware that you have already ordered the road from Silistria, through Kasawach to Yaylippe and Varna to be patrolled by another party. The commissariat officer assures me that there will be no difficulty with regard to the supplies of rations and forage being furnished.

I have the honour, &c,

CARDIGAN,

Brigadier-General, Commanding Light Cavalry Brigade, and Cavalry Patrol in Bulgaria.

The following Letter was written to me by Lord Raglan, after he had received my Despatch by Lieutenant Maxse, of the 30th June.

VARNA, 3rd July, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

Mr. Maxse delivered to me your Report of the 30th ultimo, early on the afternoon of the 1st instant. You had then been at Karasu, and were on the point of patrolling to Rassova, where I understood yesterday, from an indirect source, you had not found any of the enemy. You have thus fulfilled your mission, and are now I conclude on your return.

I am very much obliged to you for the pains you have taken to carry out my instructions. By so doing you have ascertained for me that the Russians have withdrawn from this end of the Dobrudzha, and that the country between this and Trajan's Wall is not only clear of the enemy, but is wholly deserted by the inhabitants. These are important facts, which it was very desirable I should be made acquainted with ; and I hope that the fatigue that you and the squadrons have undergone in obtaining the information will not prove injurious to your health and that of the officers and men under your orders. I have endeavoured, I hope successfully, to keep you supplied with provisions and forage corn.

Yours very faithfully,

RAGLAN.

The rate of travelling in Bulgaria is calculated by hours, and troops are supposed to move 3f miles an hour (mounted). The distance performed on the Reconnoissance was as follows:—

1854. HOURS.

June 25, From Devena to Bazardjick	.	.	10
" 26, To fountain and back		4	
" 27, To Musabeg		7½	
" 28, To Kasanach		1½	
" 29, To Karasu and back		14	
" 30, From Kasanach to Machinutori	.	4	

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

July 1, To Rassova	3
" 3, To Altona	7½
" 4, To Silistria	8
" 6, To first fountain	6½
" 7, To second fountain	6
" 8, To Shumla	6
" 9, Sunday.	
" 10, To Janibazar	4
" 11, To Devena, early in the morning; marching all night	8

96 calculated at 3½ miles an hour, makes 336 miles; or, if at 3 miles an hour, 288 miles.

Tuesday, 11th July (continued).—Having marched into Devena from Shumla at 4 A.M., Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar and Colonel J. Macdonald called to see me in camp.

Wednesday, 12th July.—Parade in watering order for 8th Hussars and 13th Light Dragoons. Duke of Cambridge and Colonel Macdonald present at parade. This watering parade was for the inspection of the horses after so long a march. There were a good many of them with sore backs, and several became non-effective from that date.

Thursday, 13th July.—Remained in camp.

Friday, 14th July.—Nothing unusual occurred.

Saturday, 15th July.—Brigade in field day order on Kosludska road.

Sunday, 16th July.—Divine Service between cavalry camps.

Monday, 17th July.—Nothing unusual occurred.

Tuesday, 18th July.—Nothing unusual occurred. I dined with Sir G. Brown in camp.

Wednesday, 19th July.—Parade at **[blank]**

Thursday, 20th July.—Nothing extraordinary in camp.

Friday, 21st July.—Nothing extraordinary in camp.

Saturday, 22nd July.—Parade in field drill order with two brigades at 5 A.M. I got orders to march forward.

VARNA, 22nd July, 1854.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Two squadrons of Turkish cavalry, which have been placed by the Ottoman Government at my disposal, in addition to the regiment which you have for some time had under your orders, have this day been reported to me as having arrived at Devena. I have desired that both horses and men may be rationed, and I have written to the Commanding Officer to place himself under your command. I have to request that you will inspect these two squadrons, and report upon their state, and that you will treat them with all kindness.

I have received your letter of yesterday, and am glad to hear that you are none the worse for your fatiguing expedition.

A Medical Report has recommended that Dupplin should go home: he is better, but he has had a squeeze. I am happy to learn that Maxse is getting right again.

Yours faithfully,
RAGLAN.

VARNA 22nd July, 1854.

The Earl of Cardigan is requested to examine the ground in the direction of Jasyteppe and Kotleby, with a view to the brigade of Light Cavalry removing to that vicinity on Monday 24th, for which no further order will be sent, unless any objection shall present itself to the Earl of Cardigan, of which he will give immediate notice. The Light Brigade may be divided into regimental camps, if more convenient in respect of water supply. Every means should be taken to improve wells or fountains.

DE ROS, D.Q.M.G.

Sunday, 23rd July.—Church parade with Second Brigade and Artillery. Got orders to march forward to-morrow.

VARNA, 23rd July, 1854.

DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

A Medical Board has ordered me back to England. I only hope that this will not cause you any inconvenience; and with many thanks for your kindness during the time I served under you,

Believe me,

Very faithfully yours,

DUPPLIN.

Monday, 24th July.—Early parade with two brigades of cavalry and two Turkish regiments in field exercise order.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

24th July.

We were a little deceived by our report as to Kotleby and Jasyteppe. Lord Raglan desires you to use your own discretion as to a move westward to Janibazar. You can do it in one or two marches, just as you think best. If my memory is correct, it is a good place for cavalry. Take your Turkish regiment

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

with you. If you had rather make only a shift of your camp, you are quite free to do so.

Very truly yours,
DE ROS.

Tuesday, 25th July.—Cholera broke out in Light Division of Infantry. Got orders from Lord De Ros to move.

VARNA, 10 P.M., 25th July, 1854.

MY DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

Your letter of this day has just been delivered to me, and I send this by a messenger to desire that you will move the Heavy Cavalry (5th Dragoon Guards and Royal Dragoons) and Captain Maude's Troop of Horse Artillery tomorrow as well as your own brigade, the cholera having fallen so heavily upon the Light Division; and having now attacked the Dragoons, I am unwilling to leave any man at Devena, and you must make the best arrangement for this additional force in advance that you can with the Commissariat. You need not take the whole on to Janibazar, but if you find a favourable place half way for one or two regiments you may drop one or both there, or if two good places, one at each, taking care however that the Artillery is not left alone. They may accompany the Light Brigade if you like. I will thank you to send twelve men of the Turkish regiment of cavalry to Sir De Lacy Evans's Division, and the same number, each of course under Commissariat officer or officers, if it be usual, to the Duke of Cambridge's Division ; and write to Sir De Lacy and His Royal Highness, and inform them that they are sent to them by my desire, and I would recommend them to their protection. Request the Colonel to call in his detachment from Bazardjick, which is no longer required, as the French are there. Ask the Colonel to write to me about rations, and to state to me what the rations ought to be. The Lancer regiment just arrived is regularly attached to me. The other is only lent, but I will ration it with pleasure. The Colonel never asked before. You had better desire the Turkish cavalry to move on also, and place themselves in daily communication with you, choosing a healthy spot. There is no reason we should give the Turks meat if they don't eat it.

Yours faithfully,
RAGLAN.

About this time I received the following Letter without date.

DEAR LORD CARDIGAN,

The Turkish dragoon officer and his dozen men who you have been so good as to send me, have arrived. They will be very useful, and I will see that they are taken care of. The young officer seems a very favourable specimen. I am glad to hear your people are so healthy. Ours are decidedly so also, and I am induced to hope by what I hear that the illness of the Light Division is ceasing. Very faithfully yours,
Camp, Yakosora,

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

DE LACY EVANS.

2nd Division.

Wednesday, 26th July.—Sent officer to Jani-bazar to see for water. Captain Lockwood, of the 8th Hussars, volunteered to perform this duty.

Lord Dupplin having resigned the situation of Aide-de-camp on July 3rd, I selected and succeeded in obtaining the appointment of my second Aide-decamp for Captain Lockwood, of the 8th Hussars, who I had observed was a very intelligent and excellent officer. He had volunteered to perform several duties for me as already narrated; he became my second Aide-de-camp, and Lieut. Maxse succeeded to Lord Dupplin's post as first Aide-de-camp.

Thursday, 27th July.—Marched at 6 A.M., with Horse Artillery and Light Cavalry Brigade to Jasyteppé, leaving 13th and 17th at Kotleby.

VARNA, 27th July, 1854.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

I have received your letter of this day, 4 A.M. I quite approve of all your arrangements, and beg you will take care to report the movements of the several regiments and the artillery to the Assistant Quarter-Master-General of the Cavalry, in order that he may make them known to the Deputy Quarter-Master-General, and of course to Lord Lucan. I am thinking of withdrawing the Royals and 5th Dragoon Guards and 6th Dragoon Guards, but I cannot determine upon this until I have ascertained that I can find a healthy spot where General Scarlett can have all his brigade together. The two regiments last named are now on the Adrianople road. I am anxious you should all be clear of Devena. I trust you continue well.

Yours faithfully,

RAGLAN.

Send a dozen Turkish dragoons to the Light Division, with the same communication as to the 1st and 2nd.

Friday, 28th July.—Marched to encampment at Janibazar. The Royals were ordered by me yesterday to near Kosludska, and the 5th Dragoon Guards to march to-day to Kotleby.

Saturday, 29th July.—The 17th Lancers came to a village very near the new encampment at Janibazar.

Sunday, 30th July. — Church parade for the Brigade.

VARNA, 30th July, 1854.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

I have received your private and official letters of yesterday.

I will thank you to make the application for Maxse's appointment through Lord W. Paulet, and request him to move Lord Lucan to submit your recommendation to me. Regularity in these matters is essential. You may also in the same letter moot the question of an extra aide-de-camp.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

I approve of all your arrangements. I see that the 13th has a good many men with fever, which makes me fear they are near marshy ground. Pray look to this. Let me hear from you constantly. Beg General Scarlett to keep me informed as to the state of health of his men.

Yours faithfully,
RAGLAN.

Monday, 31st July.—Seventeenth Lancers, except one troop, marched in from the village in the neighbourhood. Two cases of cholera in the regiment.

Tuesday, 1st August.—The duties carried on in camp.

VARNA, 1st August, 1854.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

I have just received your letter of yesterday. I have desired General Airey to send the letter party of the 11th back to the regiment when he gets the Turkish detachment. I am glad to hear that your brigade continues so healthy.

Let me know when you receive the medical comforts I have sent you. They only started yesterday. Dr. Hall had received no requisitions yesterday morning.

Yours faithfully,
RAGLAN.

Wednesday, 2nd August.—Field exercise order early in the morning. Horse Artillery, Light Brigade, and Turkish Lancers—two squadrons.

Thursday, 3rd August:—The duties in camp. Much sickness, and very hot weather.

Friday, 4th August.—Marching order. Royal Horse Artillery, Light Brigade, and Turkish Lancers, at 5½ A.M.

Saturday, 5th August.—The usual duties in camp.

Sunday, 6th August.—Church parade at 4½ P.M.

Monday, 7th August.—Field exercise order for Royal Horse Artillery, Light Brigade, and Turkish Lancers, at 5 a.m. Very unwell myself.

Tuesday, 8th August.—Sickness increasing. Very unwell myself.

Wednesday, 9th August.—Much sickness. The usual duties in camp.

Thursday, 10th August.—Ditto, ditto. Captain Woodford, Deputy Assistant-Quarter-Master-General, came at night about post for letters, and afterwards went away.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Saturday, 12th August.—Sickness rather decreasing. Still very unwell myself.

Sunday, 13th August. — Church parade at 6½ a.m.

Monday, 14th August.—Parade for Royal Horse Artillery and the Brigade, in field exercise order, at 5 a.m.

Tuesday, 15th August.—The usual duties in camp.

Wednesday, 16th August.—The usual duties in camp. I, myself, very unwell.

Thursday, 17th August.—Parade in field exercise order, at 5 A.M., for the Brigade.

Friday, 18th August.—The usual duties in camp. I was better in health myself.

VARNA, 20th August, 1854.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

I am very glad to hear that the Turkish Lancers are in future to be supplied with provisions and forage from the stores at Shumla. I never before had such good news to communicate to Mr. Commissary-General Filder. I am shocked to find that though the casualties from cholera have not been numerous, deaths from other causes have been otherwise than few. I hope the men are not exposed more than is absolutely necessary to the influence of the sun. If they take good care of their horses, and give them plenty of food, I do not wish you to require more of them. This is a very debilitating climate, and trying to an English constitution. The Circular Memorandum leaves the hair on the face quite optional, and officers and men may in that respect appear as they like—either all beard or no beard. I am going to extend the ration of rum to the officers. I intended to have given the order two days ago, but forgot it.

Yours faithfully,

RAGLAN.

I am very sorry that I never see you. My consolation is, that you are doing your duty like a man.—R.

Saturday, 19th August.—Watering parade for Brigade at half-past 5 A.M. Much sickness in camp. Deaths every day.

Sunday, 20th August.—Church parade at ½ before 7 A.M.

VARNA, 18th August, 1854.

MY DEAR CARDIGAN,

Mr. Filder assured me that he has given orders that mutton as well as beef should be issued to the cavalry under your command. I hope that your

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

sickness is diminishing. I trust that the horses are well fed and continued in good condition.

Yours faithfully,
RAGLAN.

Monday, 21st August. — Parade for Horse Artillery and Brigade in complete marching order.

Tuesday, 22nd August. — Field day. Order for outpost duty. 11th and 15th for duty, 8th and 17th support in lines. Mr. Maxse, my aide-de-camp, joined from leave of absence.

Wednesday, 23rd August. — Health of the troops improving. I myself much better.

(Memorandum.)

HEAD QUARTERS, VARNA, 23rd August, 1854.

Major-General the Earl of Cardigan will be pleased to hold the Light Cavalry Brigade in readiness to march to Varna on Friday, the 25th instant. A staff officer from this department will reach Janibazar to-morrow, for the purpose of pointing out the halting places, and entering into more detailed instructions.

By order,

(Signed) EDWARD WELLESLEY,
Major A.Q.M.G. In the absence of Lord De Ros.
Major-General THE EARL OF CARDIGAN, Commanding Light Cavalry Brigade.

Thursday, 24th August. — Had ordered a field day for to-morrow morning, when Captain Wetherall, Deputy Assistant-Adjutant-General, arrived at half-past 6 o'clock, P.M., to order the brigade to march, and prepare to embark for the Crimea. I rode down the lines at evening stables, and communicated this agreeable intelligence to the officers of the brigade.

Friday, 25th August. — Sent away Horse Artillery and 11th Hussars, at 10 A.M., for Jasytepe.

Saturday, 26th August. — Marched with the 8th, 13th, and 17th, at 7 A.M., for Jasytepe.

Sunday, 27th August. — Remained at Jasytepe, sending forward the 8th Hussars to Kotleby, and the Commissariat to Devena, on account of the want of water. Rode in the evening to Devena, by Paravadi, with my aides-de-camp Lockwood and Maxse, and encamped close by the Horse Artillery and 11th Hussars at Devena, having sent tents by the direct road. The 8th Hussars, 13th Light Dragoons, and 17th Lancers came in later, and encamped on

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

ground at right angles with our old encampment, but on the same side of the water.

Monday, 28th August.—Saw Horse Artillery and 11th Hussars march for Varna at half-past 6 A.M. I accompanied them two or three miles on the march.

Tuesday, 29th August.—I marched remainder of Brigade early this morning by the high ground to Varna, passing the camps of Sir De Lacy Evans, General Buller, and General Pennefather, and arrived about 1 o'clock at the camp near Varna. Rode in to see Lord Raglan, and dined with him; my aides-de-camp Lockwood and Maxse also.

Wednesday, 30th August.—Lord Lucan saw my Brigade out in watering order.

Thursday, 31st August.—The Horse Artillery marched and embarked. Part of the 8th Hussars embarked on board the "Himalaya."

Friday, 1st September.—Eighth Hussars and 17th Lancers continued to embark on board the "Himalaya." I also embarked on board the same vessel.

Saturday, 2nd September. — Thirteenth Light Dragoons embarked on board the "Jason," and some of the 17th Lancers.

Sunday, 3rd September.—Parade for Divine Service on board the "Himalaya" at 7 A.M. Embarkation in other vessels continued. 11th Hussars in "Trent" steamer.

Monday, 4th September.—Brigade still embarking. Lord Lucan and 4th Light Dragoons had embarked on board "Simla" steamer.

Tuesday, 5th September.—Expedition sailed at half-past 7 A.M. for Balghick Bay ; arrived in two or three hours, and anchored.

I had been actively employed almost from the day of landing at Scutari, on the 24th of May, and had been sent forward in command of the Light Cavalry Brigade, and had had the Horse Artillery attached to me, and two or three of the Heavy Dragoon regiments placed under my command at Devena. From this date my position in the cavalry was totally changed; all pleasure ceased in the command which remained to me, and I had nothing to guide me but a sense of duty to the service.

Captain Wetherall, who brought out the order to Janibazar for brigade to embark, gave me reason to suppose that I should proceed to the Crimea in command of the brigade; and I had been named in orders at head-quarters as the Commanding Officer of it; but on my arrival at Varna I found that Lord Lucan had remonstrated against his not being sent in command, and had founded his claim upon some decision of the Duke of Wellington in the

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Peninsula, viz. that a division leader might accompany any portion of his Division. Lord Lucan was ordered to withdraw his letter, which he did, but Lord Raglan then gave way, and allowed the Division leader to accompany the Light Brigade instead of myself.

Wednesday, 6th September.—Remained at anchor. The "Banshee" steamer came in. Heard from my sister Charlotte.

Thursday, 7th September.—The whole expedition sailed between 9 and 10 A.M., for the Crimea. Nothing could be more magnificent than the view of this enormous fleet, with 400 or 500 vessels, in which the three armies, viz., English, French, and Turkish, were embarked; and at night the different coloured lights, denoting the several divisions, hoisted at the mast heads, were very beautiful.

Friday, 8th September.—Continued our course north by east for a rendezvous, forty miles short of and to the west of Cape Tarkhan.

Saturday, 9th September.—Arrived at rendezvous early this morning, and anchored.

Sunday, 10th September.—Remained at anchor. Lord Raglan having gone away in the "Caradoc," it was supposed for the purpose of reconnoitring the coast of the Crimea.

Monday, 11th September.—Lord Raglan returned this morning, and we got under weigh at about 10 A.M. for rendezvous, 40 miles west of Sebastopol.

Tuesday, 12th September.—The point of rendezvous having been changed yesterday evening to Eupatoria, we sighted Sebastopol in the morning.

Wednesday, 13th September.—Having anchored yesterday evening in a bay to the north of Eupatoria, we made the latter early this day at 2½ P.M., and remained at anchor all night. Lord Raglan went on shore, and the place was given up to him, and some Turkish troops left there.

Thursday, 14th September.—Sailed at 4 A.M. this morning for landing place, eight miles to southeast, Old Fort Bay. Some infantry landed: we remained on board. A very wet night. Troops on shore bivouacked.

Friday, 15th September.—Began to disembark 8th Hussars from "Himalaya," at 2½ P.M. The surf was too heavy all the earlier part of the morning. Landed myself in the evening, and slept in small tent on the beach, close by landing place. I landed with the first of the cavalry.

Saturday, 16th September.—I received an order from Lord Raglan, through Sir R. Airey, Deputy Quarter-Master-General, to proceed on an expedition into

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

the interior. I consequently marched with about 250 Cavalry (all which could be collected from disembarkation), 250 Rifles, and two guns from Royal Horse Artillery (Captain Maude's troop), at about 11 A.M., to the villages Tuzla Sak and Tamesch, to endeavour to cut off a regiment of Russian chasseurs, and also to press arabas for our service. We arrived at Tamesch late in the afternoon, about 16 or 18 miles distant, and allowed the men to dine and feed their horses. Nothing was to be seen of an enemy of any description. Lieut-Colonel J. Macdonald and Lord Burghersh asked permission to accompany me, and left me here on their return to headquarters. We returned to the landing place at Old Fort Bay, and arrived there at 10 P.M., after pressing a number of arabas. We left the Rifles to follow at a slower rate of march, several of the men being tired by this long march immediately after landing from on board ship, and many of them were carried on the arabas (carts of the country). The horses suffered very much on this occasion for want of water. They had been kept short of water on board ship from the want of a sufficient supply ; there were scarcely any wells near the place of landing, and those without the means of drawing up the water in buckets, and in all the rivers and streams in the neighbourhood the water was brackish, if not salt. We passed a wide river at Tuzla, both marching out and returning, but the horses would not touch the water.

Sunday, 17th September.—Marched at about 12 at noon with Light Brigade, (excepting the 4th Light Dragoons,) to Sheraskoi, a village about five miles distant, where the Rifles, under Lieut-Colonel Laurence, had already been placed, and I threw out outposts and videttes to tack on to the left brigade of the Light Division. Captain Cresswell's troop of the 11th Hussars was sent on to a village in front, where a party of Rifles under Major Norcott had been already stationed.

Monday, 18th September.—Saw Captain Cresswell this morning for the last time: he died of cholera 24 hours afterwards. Remained at Sheraskoi. In the afternoon I had an alert, in consequence of the Cossacks appearing in considerable strength between two or three villages, which they had set on fire and were burning before our eyes. I turned out the brigade and advanced towards them, but they did not make any attack upon us. After placing outposts and videttes in the evening, we had again an alert in the night, caused by the piquets and videttes retiring in haste, believing they were going to be attacked by Cossacks, and firing took place amongst our own people. An officer of the 11th Hussars, who a few days afterwards died of cholera, shot his own servant in the leg, and as we turned out, the balls flew about in every direction. Order was not restored but towards daylight.

LIGHT CAVALRY BRIGADE,
CAMP, NEAR SHERASKOI,
SIR, 18th September, 1854.

I have the honour to report to you that having received an order to march on Saturday last, the 16th instant, from the point of disembarkation in the Crimea, to reconnoitre the country, with the object of endeavouring to

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

intercept a regiment of Russian cavalry supposed to be on the line of march; I proceeded at about 11½A.M. with three squadrons of Light Cavalry, two guns of the Royal Horse Artillery, and a detachment of the Rifle Brigade, consisting of about 250 men, through the villages of Tuzla and Sak to the village of Tamesch. There was nothing to be seen on the way either of Russian regular cavalry or Cossacks, and no information could be obtained on the subject, except that they had abandoned that side of the country. On the return of the party, about 25 arabs were obtained for the use of the Army. I beg to transmit this statement for the information of His Excellency General Lord Raglan.

I have the honour to be, Sir, CARDIGAN,
Major-General Commanding
Crimea. Light Cavalry Brigade.

To the Deputy Quarter-Master-General,

Tuesday, 19th September.—The army marched to the Bulgarnack river, where there was a large body of Cossacks, and I had an affair with them. Two small parties were sent forward, one of the 11th Hussars, under Captain Cook, and another of the 13th Light Dragoons, to drive the Cossacks off the small hill. I was ordered to move with the 11th Hussars and 13th Light Dragoons across the valley, a mile and a half from our artillery and main body. We came immediately under a steep hill, where we saw a very large body of cavalry. I threw out skirmishers from the 13th Light Dragoons, and the Cossacks did the same—none of the firing took effect. We then retreated by alternate squadrons in one line, which was performed with great steadiness. When about half way towards our artillery, the Russians opened a battery of 9-pounders upon us, and kept up a very sharp fire. We had five men wounded and seven horses killed. The Cossacks made a flank movement to their right, and were fired upon by Captain Maude's troop of 6-pounders. Captain Brandling's troop of horse artillery, 9-pounders, soon silenced the Russian battery, which opened upon us. During this affair, I formed up the squadrons of the 11th Hussars and 13th Light Dragoons on the right and left of Captain Brandling's troop. We could see the men and horses of the Russian battery dying and killed close by the post of the Russian battery. After this, we bivouacked within the infantry lines. I called on Lord Raglan in the house he occupied close by the Bulgarnack river.

This was the first affair of the war with the enemy. In Lord Raglan's Despatch, he says:—

"On the first occasion of the English encountering the Russian forces, it was impossible for any troops to exhibit more steadiness than did this portion of Her Majesty's Cavalry." And afterwards says, in his Despatches to the Government at home:—

"In this affair of the previous day, Major-General the Earl of Cardigan exhibited the utmost spirit and coolness, and kept his brigade under perfect command."

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Wednesday, 20th September.—The army marched this day to the Alma. On approaching the river, and the position on the heights, a tremendous fire of Minié balls and artillery opened upon us. The battle commenced at about 1 P.M., and the heights were taken, and a glorious victory obtained at 3½ P.M. The cavalry were kept back on the left flank, and took scarcely any part in the engagement. Captain Maude obtained leave late in the day to go forward with his horse artillery, and did some execution from the heights (which had been stormed and carried by the Highlanders), upon the retreating enemy. The cavalry were at first halted on the heights, but shortly afterwards were ordered by Lord Raglan, through Major-General Airey, to advance. On advancing, Lord Lucan took half the brigade by one road, leaving me the other half to proceed by another. On arriving on the opposite heights, we could see the Russian army retreating, and a large mass of cavalry covering their retreat. I at first received an order to advance and take some prisoners; when on moving off with all the force I had under me, I received another order, only to send a troop; as it was stated at the time, the Commander-in-Chief apprehended that anything like a force of cavalry advancing might bring on another general action, which was, not desired. I therefore sent a troop of the 11th Hussars to do what was required. There were only a few wounded men and stragglers of the Russians taken prisoners on this occasion. I rode with Lord Raglan amongst the regiments, who cheered him immensely; it was a very exhilarating scene. I afterwards bivouacked the brigade in the valley near the river Alma, by order of the Deputy Quarter-Master-General, General Airey. I got my own tent and baggage very late at night. Lieut-Colonel Lawrenson, commanding the 17th Lancers, went on board ship the following morning ill with cholera.

Thursday, 21st September.—Rode over the field of battle to see the batteries captured from the enemy, and also the killed and wounded. I met my relation, Lieutenant Napier Sturt, and requested him to make known to his battalion of guards, that many non-commissioned officers and men were still lying on the ground wounded since the previous day, and that they called for medical aid. The army remained to bury the dead and collect the wounded. The killed and wounded were 2090.

Friday, 22nd September.—Remained this day for the same purposes as yesterday.

Saturday, 23rd September.—We marched to the river Katckha, and the cavalry under Lord Lucan were then sent four or five miles distant to the front, to the village of Devonskoi. It was apparent from about 6 or 7 P.M., that this village was not tenable, and that cavalry could not remain there with any safety, the post being commanded on all sides by brushwood, in which infantry could easily have concealed themselves. The village was within a very easy march of Sebastopol.

We were kept there for several hours, and then late at night were ordered to return up the defile in the dark. The road was so narrow, and the night so

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

dark, that several of the baggage conveyances were upset, and before we left the village the Cossacks hovered on our rear. We arrived at a very late hour on the high ground, and near the encampment of the main army; many of the horses having had no water. The cavalry had been hurried across the Katckha river the previous day, with scarcely time to water the horses.

Sunday, 24th September.—The cavalry marched on the left of the army to place of bivouac, on the river Belbeck. I was ordered immediately to reconnoitre a pass to the front, towards Sevastopol, with a squadron of the 11th Hussars and a squadron of the 13th Light Dragoons. I reported that the road was impassable, there being a marsh in front, then a causeway, and then a battery of heavy guns, and a strong force of infantry and some cavalry. I pitched my tent in the valley, near the 11th Hussars and Scots Greys, both of which regiments had just encamped near the river.

Monday, 25th September.—Turning away from the pass in front, the army marched to the left through a thick wood, in the direction of southeast. A strong force of Russians had marched out of Sevastopol with Prince Menchikoff, and we came in contact with them near Mackenzie's Farm; they were marching towards Simpheropol. Our cavalry, viz., the Light Brigade (except the 4th Light Dragoons, which were with the 4th Division), the Scots Greys, and Captain Maude's troop of Horse Artillery, were entangled in the wood; the 8th Hussars came out first, but in single files at a gallop, and were ordered to attack by Lord Lucan. The horse artillery had come out of the wood in good time, and got into action, and killed a good many Russians, and we took a good deal of baggage and a few prisoners. The horses of the Light Brigade were becoming weak from the effects of the climate and work, and when I ordered the 8th Hussars to support the 17th Lancers (who followed the enemy), under Lord Lucan, from the heights near Mackenzie's Farm, the Commanding Officer told me he thought his horses would not have strength to get up the hill again, and I sent another regiment in its stead. After the affair with the Russians, I went to Lord Raglan, who was sitting under the porch at Mackenzie's Farm with General Airey, and he began by blaming me that the cavalry had been too low in the brushwood, and not in the right place. I simply reminded his Lordship, that I did not command the cavalry. We afterwards marched towards the Tchernaya river to Tractir. I there watered my horse in the river, at the same time with Lord Raglan. We bivouacked near the river, and Lord Raglan slept in a small house, broken open for the purpose, close by an aqueduct which leads to Sevastopol. In the evening, I lay down near the fire of the bivouac of the 13th Light Dragoons, in my cloak, and my aides-de-camp near me: my baggage arrived at 12½ P.M., when I got a slight dinner. The Duke of Cambridge and other General Officers did not get their baggage at all. This was the celebrated flank march.

Tuesday, 26th September.—I was sent on with four squadrons early in the morning, to endeavour to cut off some arabas going into Sevastopol, but did not succeed in taking them. The army marched upon Balaklava, which they

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

took. The fort at the top of the hill yielded after a few shots had been fired. We encamped close by Balaklava for the night.

Wednesday, 27th September. — Changed our camp to opposite the village of Kadicoi, Lord Lucan entirely taking the command away from me. The Heavy Brigade arrived about this time, viz., 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards, Royals, and Inniskillens, in addition to the Scots Greys.

Thursday, 28th September. — Bivouacked off village of Kadicoi. 11th Hussars and Horse Artillery in front near Sebastopol.

Friday, 29th September. — Went to see siege train taken up, and Sebastopol invested.

Saturday, 30th September. — There was an alert in the afternoon, 25,000 Russians reported coming on, but nothing seen or heard of them.

Sunday, 1st October. — Siege guns still being taken up. Heavy Brigade arrived and landed. Our extra horses arrived from Varna.

Monday, 2nd October. — Guards moved up to lines of investment.

Tuesday, 3rd October. — Preparations for siege going on.

Wednesday, 4th October. — Preparations for siege going on. I rode up this evening to the Second Division, under Sir De Lacy Evans. A Russian shell from the Inkerman fell amongst the Second Division, and killed a Serjeant and wounded two men. The Governor of Sebastopol reported to have received reinforcements under General Luders. I was very unwell all this time.

Thursday, 5th October. — Being very unwell with diarrhoea, I was ordered by the Division medical officer on board the "Star of the South," in Balaklava harbour. Lord Raglan went into a house near Sebastopol.

Friday, 6th October. — Preparations still making for the siege.

Saturday, 7th October. — On this morning the Russians drove in our cavalry piquets, and made three prisoners of the 4th Dragoon Guards. Our cavalry turned out with Horse Artillery, and it was said by the officers generally that an attack ought to have been made on the Russian cavalry in the valley, but it was not done! I was not present, being ill on board "Star of the South," in harbour.

Sunday, 8th October. — Although ill, I went out at 5½ A.M., with the troops from on board ship. Two Turkish regiments of infantry, a Highland regiment (93rd), all the cavalry and artillery turned out, but nothing occurred. I returned on board ship, being very ill.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Monday, 9th October.—Nothing occurred in the morning at the outposts. I remained on board ship.

Tuesday, 10th October.—Both night and day extremely cold. Nothing occurred at the outposts in the morning. There was an alarm in the afternoon, but it ended in nothing. All male inhabitants were this day ordered out of Balaklava.

Wednesday, 11th October. "Star of the South." Remained on board

Thursday, 12th October.—I dined on board, and went up to Sebastopol camp in the evening, to take command of the 11th Hussars and 4th Light Dragoons, and pitched my bell tent near the Guards' camp.

Friday, 13th October.—Turned out at daylight, and after the usual morning parade of troops, walked about with His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. Remained afterwards in camp. My friend, Mr. De Burgh, to whom I had lent my yacht, came into my tent, where I was dining on a bullock trunk. Some soup in a jug, boiled salt pork, and a little Varna brandy mixed with bad rum, was my fare. He had brought the "Dryad" yacht out from England. He went back in the dark with difficulty to the yacht.

Saturday, 14th October.—Turned out at daylight. Reached camp in the afternoon at Balaklava, with 4th Light Dragoons and 11th Hussars. Dined on board yacht.

Sunday, 15th October.—The "Agamemnon" went out of harbour. Having slept in my tent, turned out at daylight, and breakfasted on board yacht.

Monday, 16th October:—My birthday. Nothing extraordinary occurred.

Tuesday, 17th October.—The siege commenced at 6½ a.m. The French soon had two tumbrils of gunpowder blown up, which caused their guns to cease for a time. The fleet went into harbour and attacked Fort Constantine: that is to say, "Agamemnon" with Sir Edward Lyons, "Sans-pareil," and "Bellerophon," and got considerably knocked about. They were not supported by the rest of the fleet, and the French ships remained out at a long range. I remained the greater part of the day to the front watching the proceedings. The "Agamemnon" went in and anchored in very shallow water, under Fort Constantine. My aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Maxse, was on board on a visit.

Wednesday, 18th October.—There was a threatened attack in the rear in the morning by the Russian troops. Our troops went home at 12 or 1, except piquets. It was supposed that troops marched into Sebastopol the previous night. The siege continued, but the fleet did not attack.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Thursday, 19th October.—No enemy appeared at 5 A.M. Siege continued, but little progress made. My aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Maxse, came to live on board, being unwell. I had slept on board since the 15th instant, having received permission from Lord Raglan to live on board and do duty from thence. My health was so bad I should otherwise have been obliged to go on sick leave on board a vessel in harbour.

Friday, 20th October.—Remained on board the yacht this morning. Nothing occurred at outposts of our camp till about half-past 5 P.M., when we all turned out, and the whole division of Cavalry and Artillery remained out till 7 A.M., the following morning. Being very ill, I got leave to go into my tent for three or four hours, which was close at hand, within sixty yards; so were all the lines, but no officers or men were allowed to quit their posts. Nothing occurred in the morning; no enemy was to be seen. This proceeding on the night of the 20th caused great discontent, and was much criticised, it being declared quite without precedent for an enemy to attack in the dark, and therefore it was declared to be unnecessarily harassing 1000 men and horses to keep them out all night, instead of sending one or two regiments as a strong support, with piquets and videttes out, to watch the enemy.

[blank]

Sunday, 22nd October.—Major Willett, of the 17th Lancers, died to-day. The siege continued. Had Divine Service for the Light Brigade at 2 P.M. We turned out again towards the evening. The Quarter-Master-General, General Airey, came out to watch the proceedings. I asked him if it was known at head-quarters that we had been out the whole of the preceding night? He said, No. After a little further conversation, he went on to the front; and about 7 o'clock all were ordered to turn in, except the piquets and videttes.

Monday, 23rd October. — Nothing particular occurred.

Tuesday, 24th October.—The usual camp duties.

Wednesday, 25th October.—At about 7 a.m., the Russians made an attack on us at Balaklava, and took the outward forts with seven guns, occupied by the Turks, who instantly ran away. Their cavalry then advanced towards the Highlanders under Sir Colin Campbell, who was prepared to receive them in line, but the Russian cavalry turned away and attacked the Heavy Brigade, consisting of the Greys and Inniskillens, under the command of Brigadier-General Scarlett. The Greys were nearly surrounded; but two other regiments of the brigade, viz., the 5th and 4th Dragoon Guards, coming to their assistance, the Russians were defeated and fled from the field.

Previous to this, I had been ordered into a particular position by the Lieutenant-General, with orders on no account to leave it, and to defend it against any attack of the Russians; they did not however approach the position.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

After the Heavy Brigade had repulsed the Russians, we were advanced across the plain, near to where the attack had been made by the Russians on the forts. Both brigades were dismounted. When the Light Brigade was after a time suddenly ordered to mount, Lord Lucan came to the front of the Light Brigade, and ordered me to attack the Russians in the valley. I replied, "Certainly, Sir; but allow me to point out to you that the Russians have a battery in the valley in our front, and batteries and riflemen on each flank." Lord Lucan replied, "I cannot help that; it is Lord Raglan's positive order that the Light Brigade attacks immediately." I instantly moved off the brigade. Lord Lucan had previously altered the formation of my brigade. I had placed the 13th Light Dragoons, 17th Lancers, and 11th Hussars, in the front line. Lord Lucan ordered the 11th back to support the left rear flank of the 17th Lancers. The 4th Light Dragoons and 8th Hussars formed the original second line under the senior officer, Lord George Paget. The brigade, therefore, attacked in three lines. The distance from the point from which we moved off to the battery in the lower part of the valley in front of us was quite, if not more than, a mile and a quarter. The first line being of course led by myself, we took and silenced the battery in the valley, which had directed a murderous fire on the whole brigade advancing. On coming at a steady pace within about eighty yards of the battery, consisting of about twelve or fourteen pieces of heavy ordnance, a fire was opened along the whole line of the battery. This was a very exciting moment, and one or two of the squadron leaders became much excited; but I succeeded in keeping them back, and we reached the battery in a very good line, and at the regulated charging pace; and here many officers and men were killed. On leading into the battery a gun was fired close by my horse's head. I rode straight forward at the same pace, till I came near to a strong force of Russian cavalry. I was then attacked by two Cossacks, slightly wounded, and nearly dismounted; although I did not think it necessary to return myself wounded. I had difficulty in recovering my seat, and then in defending myself against several Cossacks. I was nearly alone. The brigade it appears did not follow in my direction, but after being engaged a few minutes with the gunners on entering the battery, bore away to the left by an open space, thereby avoiding the impediments of Russian limber carriages and ammunition waggons, &c. On retreating outside the guns I found no brigade formed, but the hill was covered with small broken parties retreating. The 11th Hussars, led by Colonel Douglas, obeying the orders given, supported the left rear flank of the 17th Lancers, and passing in succession the right flank of the Russian battery which the first line had taken, attacked a strong body of Russian cavalry in the rear. It appears that the two regiments of the second line got separated in the advance, and the 8th Hussars led away to their right, and before they reached the battery in front were attacked by the Russian cavalry, in flank, and retreated.

The 4th Light Dragoons, with the leader of the second line, Lord George Paget, following the course of the 11th Hussars, went down also to the attack of the Russians in rear of the position of the guns; and on the 11th retreating, these two regiments came momentarily together, when upon Lieutenant Palmer crying out to his commanding officer, Colonel Douglas, that they were

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

surrounded, the two regiments went about and retreated up the hill at a very rapid pace; two or three of the surviving officers of the first line, who had got separated from their men, retreated with the remainder of the brigade at a rapid pace. The whole affair, from the moment we moved off until we re-formed on the ground from which we started, did not occupy more than 20 minutes. On my coming upon the regiments which were re-forming after their retreat, two or three of them gave me three cheers.

On the troops forming up on their original ground, I had them counted by my Brigade-Major, and found that there were 195 mounted men out of about 670. I have omitted to mention that the officer who brought the supposed order for us to attack, viz., Captain Nolan, was killed by a shell from one of the flank batteries, about 50 yards after we moved off to the attack. It is my firm belief that all officers and men, both of the leading and supporting regiments, did their duty well, and they were all exposed, not only to the front fire of the battery in the valley, but also to the fire of the batteries on each flank, and also the Russian riflemen.

After counting the remains of the brigade, I rode off to Lord Raglan, who disapproved entirely of the attack; stating to me that to attack a battery in front was contrary to all the usages of warfare. During this affair I was not accompanied by any aide-de-camp: Lieutenant Maxse was slightly wounded short of the battery, and retreated. My excellent aide-de-camp, Captain Lockwood, I never saw at all from the moment of advancing; he was killed, and we never could discover where. My extra aide-de-camp, Sir G. Wombwell of the 17th Lancers, had his horse killed on entering the battery, was taken prisoner, but escaped afterwards by his agility in jumping on a stray horse, and galloping away with the 4th Light Dragoons and 11th Hussars retreating.

Of the Commanding Officers of Regiments who all did their duty with great gallantry, Captain Oldham, commanding the 13th Light Dragoons, was blown to pieces going into the battery, and Captain Morris, commanding the 17th Lancers, was cut down and dangerously wounded after entering the battery.

Thursday, 26th October.—The brigade was almost destroyed by yesterday's affair. 300 men were killed, wounded, and missing. 396 horses were put hors de combat, and 24 officers killed and wounded. Rode to camp in front, received the account of the battle of the Alma from London. The Turkish outposts were drawn in, they having lost seven of our guns yesterday. In the course of this and the two following days, I had upwards of 30 of the horses of the Light Cavalry Brigade shot, being desperately wounded in the affair of yesterday.

Friday, 27th October.—Drew in the cavalry piquets, and changed camp to White House in the rear. An alarm on the right; 30 Russian horses came into camp, and were taken by us.

Saturday, 28th October.—Moved camp to the rear on the heights above the new entrenchments. Light Brigade in second line.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Sunday, 29th October.—A very wet and cold day. All quiet in camp.

Monday, 30th October.—Called on Lord Raglan, and saw Despatch about 25th instant.

Tuesday, 31st October.—Called again on Lord Raglan by his invitation. Rode on with him to watch the siege of Sebastopol.

Wednesday, 1st November.—I rode forward to see the siege with Lord Raglan; he was particularly kind to me about this time, and asked me frequently to accompany him riding. I spoke to him to-day about the unusual proceeding of an attack of a battery in front, and he told me he had written home a private account of the affair. The French making much progress in the siege. Sir De Lacy Evans went on board "Sanspareil" yesterday, being very ill. Lieutenant Maxse very ill on board my yacht for several days.

Thursday, 2nd November.—The usual camp duties.

Friday, 3rd November.—Nothing unusual occurred. I rode with Lord Raglan again. The Light Cavalry Brigade changed its camp to the right near the windmill, on the heights above Inkerman.

Saturday, 4th November.—Nothing unusual occurred.

Sunday, 5th November.—Early in the morning the Russians attacked the right flank of Sir De Lacy Evans's camp on the heights of Inkerman. A false attack was made upon Balaklava. I slept on board yacht, and believed it to be a real attack, and turned out. I left Balaklava at the same time with Sir De Lacy Evans, who left the "Sanspareil" to join the Second Division. He halted for a time to reconnoitre the position of the Russian force, usually placed near the village of Kamara. I galloped on and reached the position of Inkerman, much sooner than he did. I found a fresh horse meeting me half way. I joined and took command of the brigade at about a quarter after 10. They had been previously ordered to support the Chasseurs d'Afrique in an advance but not an attack, and they were afterwards halted in a position within range of the heavy guns and shells from the vessels in the Inkerman river, by which fire we lost an officer, Lieutenant Cleveland of the 17th Lancers, and five or six men, and about seven horses. Immediately after my arrival, the whole of the cavalry were ordered to retire still further. The enemy were well beaten, losing near 20,000 men. We lost 2500 killed and wounded, and several General Officers. Sir G. Cathcart, Generals Strangways and Goldie, killed; Sir G. Brown and General Bentinck, wounded. It was a very bloody battle. When the battle was over, Lord Raglan and the Deputy Quarter-Master-General came up to my brigade, and directed me to send them to their quarters in camp.

Monday, 6th November. — Siege continued. Nothing unusual occurred. Russians did not attack again. Rode over the field of battle. The Russian dead were buried on this and the following day by our people. An immense number

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

of bodies were found. A flag of truce was sent to Prince Menchikoff, relative to the officers and men being stabbed after being wounded.

Wednesday, 8th November.—Bastions were commenced near Second Division, on the front of the attack of the 5th instant. Lord George Paget went to England this day. In the usual course, his leave of absence would have been applied for by me, the general officer of the brigade; but Lord George took me aside, near the camp, and communicated to me that he was going to England in a steamer about to sail that evening; that he had received Lord Raglan's permission. He asked me my opinion, whether there would be any thing improper in his taking that step, as it was his wish and intention to retire from the service. I told him, that under those circumstances, and that as the campaign for that year (certainly for cavalry) had ended, that I did not think he could be blamed; after some further details on the subject, he wished me good bye, and we parted. Lord G Paget afterwards returned to the army, by the advice of his friends in England.

Friday, 10th November.—An attack was expected from the Russians this morning, but it did not take place. It blew a gale in the evening.

Saturday, 11th November.—Horses and camp in a sad state from wet weather. No attack by the Russians. They were collected about this time in great force of cavalry in the valley of Inkerman, and of infantry near the village of Kamara: siege proceeding very slowly. Reinforcements arriving, both for English and French army.

Sunday, 12th November.—A very stormy night, with much wet. An attack by the Russians expected in the morning, but did not take place: a rough stormy day, and very heavy severe firing at Sebastopol in the evening. Had church parade with a clergyman for Brigade, at 3 P.M.

Monday, 13th November.—A very wet morning after a stormy night. I went up early to camp.

Tuesday, 14th November.—A most awful hurricane at 7½ in the morning. Nine ships were lost off the harbour. The "Retribution," with the Duke of Cambridge on board, in great distress all night, and during 36 hours, having lost two anchors and the third partly broken, about one hundred yards off a lee shore. The "Prince" steamer was lost, with 35,000 suits of warm clothing for the army. A fearful scene in the harbour. All the vessels crashing against each other. My yacht was much damaged, and at one time very near being swamped by the "Tonnings" and "Gertrude" steamers, close by the "Sanspareil," whose yards frequently dipped into the water in the harbour, so much protected on all sides. Much ammunition also went down in the open harbour. The harbour was filled with parts of the wrecks. The vessels lost were the "Prince," "Resolute," "Kenilworth," "Wanderer," "Wild-wave," "Progress," and "Rip Van Winkle." Of course the troops suffered in their tents very much, most of which were blown down.

Wednesday, 15th November.—Went up very early to camp, and had horses shifted out of mud to new ground, and visited the sick in the regimental hospitals; a sad sight, the sick lying some in wet boots, some without them, and others without socks. The sickness and debility amongst the horses reached a fearful height about this time, which in addition to the number of horses lost on the day of the battle of Balaklava, rendered the Light Brigade far from effective.

Thursday, 16th November.—Was ill, and did not leave yacht. Maxse came back from on board the "Colombo." Lord Burghersh called on return from England. The men and officers' tents in camp were shifted to new ground. Fresh guns and ammunition brought by Colonel Dupuis, in "Colombo," from Constantinople. Saw J. Macdonald, who came on board from "Retribution." She came into harbour this morning.

Friday, 17th November.—The "Retribution," with the Duke of Cambridge on board, had been in the greatest danger on the 14th instant, losing a rudder and breaking away from two anchors, and then hanging by a third half broken, about 100 yards from rocks. The "Retribution" was saved in great measure owing to the skill and judgment of her commander, Captain J. Drummond. She came into harbour the second day after the storm without a rudder. She had also been struck, and had her deck damaged by a thunderbolt during the storm. Went out with my friend De Burgh, to see the outward harbour, and paid a visit to the Duke of Cambridge, on board "Retribution;" then went up to Light Brigade camp, and to see new redoubts near Second Division, and called on General Pennefather, who had commanded the Light Division on the day of Inkerman. Saw a Russian who had been wounded in three places, and had been lying out ever since, thirteen days, without food.

Saturday, 18th November.—Stayed on board, ill all day with diarrhoea.

Sunday, 19th November.—Stayed on board all day for the same reason. Captain Drummond, of the "Retribution," called on me; the Duke of Cambridge having left "Retribution" to go on board the "Medway," for Constantinople, returned to the "Retribution" this evening. The "Medway" sailed — a fresh breeze. Communicated both days with camp by orderlies. Wrote to Lord Raglan privately about state of men and horses of the Light Cavalry Brigade, and my own bad health.

Monday, 20th November.—Stayed at home all day, very ill.

Tuesday, 21st November.—Walked out in the evening through the town to the encampment of the 97th, just arrived, 1000 strong.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Wednesday, 22nd November.—Called at Lord Raglan's at luncheon time. Had a short interview with him. Was ill, and sent orderly thence to the brigade camp, instead of going there.

Thursday, 23rd November.—Rode with De Burgh to camp, and thence to piquet house to watch the siege. On the Monday or Tuesday night, Captain Tryon had taken an important post near the town. The enemy had since tried to retake it, and failed.

Friday, 24th November.—Did not go to camp. Went on board the "Colombo," to see Maxse before his going to England on sick certificate. A wet day after a very wet night

Saturday, 25th November.—Rainy day: stayed at home almost the whole day.

Sunday, 26th November.—Rode to camp, found everything in a very wet and uncomfortable state. Captain W. Peel called on me. De Burgh and myself rode, and went after the camp to the piquet house. Captain Peel dined with me.

Monday, 27th November.—I rode to the camp, and to see new fortifications in rear.

Tuesday, 28th November.—Rode a little way out only. Received newspapers from England, with Lord Raglan's Despatches relative to the affair of the 25th of October, the battle of Balaklava, charge of Light Cavalry, &c. Wrote to Lord Raglan to say I must send in a request to go before a Medical Board.

Wednesday, 29th November.—I this day applied for a Medical Board on my health, through the Lieut-General commanding the Division, and reported that I wished to resign my command of the brigade. A very wet day, and in the morning very boisterous weather. Very unwell to-day. Doctor of the "Diamond" Captain Peel's ship, came to see me.

Thursday, 30th November.—Remained at home ill all day, except riding to the hospital stables, just outside of Balaklava. Heard from the Adjutant-General that a Medical Board was ordered. Received brigade reports for the last time.

Friday, 1st December.—Heard that Lord Lucan had put Lieut-Colonel Doherty in orders to command the brigade. Saw the doctor of the "Diamond" for the third time. Heard that great reinforcements were coming out.

Saturday, 2nd December.—A fine day. I remained at home unwell. Medical Board had appointed 1 o'clock to come on board, but did not come.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Sunday, 3rd December.—Rained incessantly all day. Medical Board came on board at 1 o'clock. Doctor of Medical Board told me verbally to return home as quickly as possible

Monday, 4th December.—Letters came for me in Lord Raglan's bag from England. I did not leave ship, but walked on deck. Wrote to Maxse, who went away in the morning in "Jura" steamer for Constantinople. Colonel Douglas dined with us on board. 90th Regiment, and drafts of Artillery arrived.

Tuesday, 5th December.—Called on General Canrobert, General Ferret (French Cavalry General), and called to take leave of Lord Raglan. Was written to by Deputy Adjutant-General in the morning to say there was an informality in the proceedings of the Medical Board. Lord Raglan showed me a General Order notifying the Queen's approbation of General Scarlett's conduct and mine on the 25th October.

I received yesterday a highly complimentary letter from his Royal Highness Prince Albert on the same subject.

Wednesday, 6th December.—Getting very unwell. Rode out in the afternoon to look at ground, alone, where charge of the Heavy Brigade took place; and where it was said that a flank attack ought to have been made by the Light Brigade when the Heavy Brigade was attacked by the Russian Cavalry. I am decidedly of opinion that no such attack could have been made, nor was it ever ordered either by Lord Raglan or any other superior officer; on the contrary, the Light Brigade was ordered expressly to remain in one position. The flank of the Russians was never exposed to the Light Brigade so stationed by order. It was asserted by the late Colonel Morris, or his friends, that he, being a captain commanding a regiment at the time, had given me advice to attack, but such statement was totally without foundation, and I informed Colonel Morris some time before his death that such was the case. Captain Derryman, of the "Caradoc," dined with us.

Thursday, 7th December.—A sale of my horses, bâts-horses, and goods, in Light Brigade camp, at 12½ noon. Went to look at protecting party of French troops to others cutting wood in the valley. Rode on to Lord Raglan, and took leave of him. Heard the "Caradoc" would sail to-morrow with letters.

Friday, 8th December.—Rode out early, and went round the new redoubts, commencing with Brigade camp, to Inkerman, and thence to piquet house to see Sebastopol before quitting the Camp; rode close down to the waters of the Inkerman, and examined all the fortifications and the new works on the Inkerman heights. Dined on board yacht at 3½, and went on board "Caradoc" at 5½. Met the mail from Admiral Dundas, and finally got under weigh for Constantinople, at 6 P.M.

END OF MY CAMPAIGN.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

The following is an extract of a Letter from the Duke of Newcastle to Lord Raglan.

I have the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's Despatch, No. 85, dated before Sebastopol, October 28th, in which you gave an account of a battle fought on the 25th of that month, in front of Balaklava.

I have laid the Despatch before the Queen, and I have received Her Majesty's commands to express to your Lordship her admiration of the gallantry and conduct of the troops engaged on that occasion. Her Majesty has learnt with deep concern that the repulse of the enemy was not effected without a heavy loss of the Division of Cavalry, more especially the Light Brigade, but that the brilliancy of the charge and the gallantry and discipline evinced by all have never been surpassed, even by British soldiers, under similar circumstances. To every non-commissioned officer and private engaged in this severe encounter with vastly superior numbers, the Queen desires me to communicate through your Lordship her approved thanks. Her Majesty has not failed to remark the distinguished services performed on this occasion by General Sir Colin Campbell. Her Majesty has especially noticed the brilliant conduct of the Division of Cavalry under the command of Lieut.-General the Earl of Lucan, and is deeply sensible of the Earl of Cardigan and the Honourable Brigadier-General Scarlett, who commanded the two brigades of cavalry, and so nobly sustained the honour of that distinguished and important arm of the Service.

The following is a copy of the Despatch sent by Lieut-General the Earl of Lucan to the Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

BALAKLAVA, October 27.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to report that the Cavalry Division under my command was seriously engaged with the enemy on the 25th instant, during the greater part of which day it was under a heavy fire ; that it made a most triumphant charge against a very superior number of the enemy's cavalry, and an attack upon batteries which, for daring and gallantry, could not be exceeded. The loss, however, in officers, men, and horses, has been most severe.

From half-past 6 in the morning, when the Horse Artillery first opened fire, till the enemy had possessed itself of all the different forts, the cavalry, constantly changing their positions, continued giving all the support they could to the Turkish troops, though much exposed to the fire of heavy guns and riflemen, when they took post on the left of the second line of redoubts by an order from your Lordship.

The Heavy Brigade had soon to return to the support of the troops defending Balaklava, and was fortunate enough in being at hand when a large force of Russian cavalry was descending the hill. I immediately ordered Brigadier-General Scarlett to attack with the Scots Greys and Enniskillen Dragoons, and had his attack supported in second line by the 5th Dragoon Guards, and by a flank attack of the 4th Dragoon Guards.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Under every disadvantage of ground, these eight small squadrons succeeded in defeating and dispersing a body of cavalry estimated at three times their number and more.

The Heavy Brigade having now joined the Light Brigade, the Division took up a position with a view of supporting an attack upon the heights; when, being instructed to make a rapid advance to our front, to prevent the enemy carrying the guns lost by the Turkish troops in the morning, I ordered the Light Brigade to advance in two lines, and supported them with the Heavy Brigade. This attack of the Light Cavalry was very brilliant and daring; exposed to a fire from heavy batteries on their front and two flanks, they advanced unchecked until they reached the batteries of the enemy, and cleared them of their gunners, and only retired when they found themselves engaged with a very superior force of cavalry in the rear. Major-General the Earl of Cardigan led this attack in the most gallant and intrepid manner; and his Lordship has expressed himself to me as admiring in the highest degree the courage and zeal of every officer, non-commissioned officer, and man who assisted.

The Heavy Brigade advanced to the support of the attack under a very galling fire from the batteries and infantry in a redoubt, and acted with most perfect steadiness, and in a manner to deserve all praise.

The losses, my Lord, it grieves me to state, have been very great indeed, and I fear, will be much felt by your Lordship.

I cannot too strongly recommend to your Lordship the two general officers commanding the brigades, all the officers in command of regiments, as also the divisional and brigade staffs; indeed, the conduct of every individual, of every rank, I feel to be deserving of my entire praise, and I hope, of your Lordship's approbation.

The conduct of the Royal Horse Artillery Troop, first under the command of Captain Maude, and after that officer was severely wounded, of Captain Shakespear, was most meritorious and praiseworthy. I received from those officers every possible assistance during the time they respectively commanded.

I have, &c.
LUCAN,
Lieut.- General Commanding Cavalry Division.
His Excellency the Commander of the Forces, &c.

The following was a General Order issued by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

HEAD QUARTERS BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, 29th October, 1854.
GENERAL AFTER ORDERS.

The Commander-in-Chief feels deeply indebted to Major-General Sir Colin Campbell for his able and persevering exertions in the action in the front of Balaklava, on the 25th instant, and has great pleasure in publishing to the Army the brilliant manner in which the 93rd Highlanders, under his able

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

directions, repulsed the enemy's cavalry. The Major-General had such confidence in his distinguished regiment, that he was satisfied that it should receive the charge in line, and the result proved that his confidence was not misplaced.

No. 2. The Commander of the Forces considers it his duty to notice the brilliant conduct of the Division of Cavalry under the command of Lieut-General the Earl of Lucan in the action of the 25th instant. He congratulates Brigadier-General the Honourable J. Scarlett, and his officers and men of the Heavy Brigade, upon their successful charge and repulse of the Russian Cavalry, in far greater force than themselves; and while he condoles with Major-General the Earl of Cardigan and the officers and men of the Light Brigade on the heavy loss it sustained, he feels it is due to them to place on record the gallantry they displayed, and the coolness and perseverance with which they executed one of the most arduous attacks that ever was witnessed, under the heaviest fire, and in face of powerful bodies of artillery, cavalry, and infantry.

No. 3. The Commander of the Forces has the greatest satisfaction in thanking Lieut-General Sir De Lacy Evans and the officers and men of the Second Division, for the gallant and energetic manner in which they repulsed the powerful sortie made on his position on the 26th instant. The conduct of all engaged was admirable, and the arrangements of the Lieutenant-General were so able and effective, as at once to ensure success and inflict a heavy loss upon the enemy.

J. B. B. ESTCOURT,
Adjutant-General.

Saturday, 9th December.—A beautiful passage from Balaklava; quite smooth and fine weather. Mr. Russell, of the "Times" newspaper, and Captain Hamilton, one of the Quarter-Master-General's department, on board as passengers. Going in the morning nine and ten knots; in the afternoon eight or nine knots.

Sunday, 10th December.—Arrived in the Bosphorus very early in the morning. Brought up at Therapia at 7 A.M., and in Bacos Bay immediately afterwards. This is where the English and French men of war and sailing line of battle ships were going, and we anchored at the Golden Horn at about 8 A.M.

I called on the Duke of Cambridge at Messiries Hotel in the afternoon. Important despatches had been sent up the day before by "Express" steamer, and the Duke de Montebello had gone on to General Canrobert from Paris; and strong reinforcements, both English and French, had passed up: the 89th Regiment anchored near the Golden Horn. Captain Derri-man lent me the "Caradoc," so I remained with my friend De Burgh on board.

Monday, 11th December.—Captain Inglis, of the 11th Hussars, called upon me, and Captain Tatham of the "Simoon." Did not leave the vessel to-day, not

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

feeling at all well; remained still on board "Caradoc." Captain Derriman lived on shore with some friends.

Tuesday, 12th December.—My yacht "Dryad," came in and anchored about 7 A.M. She arrived near the Bosphorus early yesterday morning, and was becalmed till the evening, then came in and anchored high up in the Bosphorus. Left "Caradoc," and went on board "Dryad," at 3 P.M. Called afterwards on the Duke of Cambridge, and met his staff in the street. The surgeon of the "Caradoc" attending me for illness.

Wednesday, 13th December.—Had a better night, under the new surgeon's treatment for first time. Went on board "Hydaspes," to see Captain Maude and Captain Morris, both wounded at Balaklava. Went on board "Jura," a new steamer, and took a cabin to go to Malta. The "Dryad" moved today inside the front bridge. Called on Captain J. Drummond, on board "Retribution." He was not at home.

Thursday, 14th December.—Went on board "Emu" steamer. Her screw out of order. Visited the Barrack Hospital at Scutari—2000 patients. A very wet day. Mail came in from France yesterday evening.

Friday, 15th December.—It being a very wet day, I did not go out, but walked on deck. Captain Derriman, of "Caradoc," dined with us.

Saturday, 16th December.—Called on the Duke of Cambridge early this morning. J. Macdonald went with us on board "Jura," filled with invalids, wounded officers and men; and went also on board the "Royal Albert," just arrived from England with troops on board—about 1300 men. Sir T. Paisley, Captain commanding "Royal Albert."

Sunday, 17th December.—My horses from Crimea (four), cook, and two bât men, arrived in the Bosphorus early this morning, and remained there. The cook came forward. The "Victoria" steamer was towed all the way, as she had lost her rudder.

De Burgh and myself went to see St. Sophia Mosque, and then passing over the ancient seat of Hippodrome, came to three columns on the ground; one Egyptian, one very ancient, and a short one much damaged. Went on to see Mosque, called Suliman the Magnificent. The French mail packet came in this afternoon.

Monday, 18th December. — Went on board the "Candia," and engaged a cabin for Malta. Upwards of 2000 tons, a new ship belonging to the Oriental Steam Company. Received letters from England and Crimea. Left my name on Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, who had called on me.

Tuesday, 19th December.—Went over General Hospital, at Scutari, in the red building, about 800 patients; and upwards of 2000 in the Barrack Hospital, which I had seen a few days since. Doctor Menzies at the head of

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

the General Hospital. Saw one of the Sisters of Charity and noncommissioned officers and men of the Light Brigade of Cavalry, many of whom were wounded at Balaklava, on the 25th of October. Hospital generally in good order, but there were not enough medical attendants. Went on board "Candia," to see horse boxes. Heard that General Adams died this morning. Had news about going home in "Candia."

Wednesday, 20th December. — Went to two bazaars in Stamboul. Called on Lord Stratford, who asked me to dine there, but did not, not being well enough or able to dress on account of swelled legs. Had more letters from England. Saw Admiral Boxer about sailing in "Candia."

Thursday, 21st December. — Went to "Candia" steamer, and to see horses on board "Vittoria." Went up to Messiries: met Mr. Gregory, of Guards, and took him in ship to Robert Lowe for letters. Came away in boat without a rudder; landed at Topham station, where guns are placed short of bridge, and walked home in the wet.

Friday, 22nd December. — Went to Scutari in gig, and called on Lord William Powlett; came back in steamer. Decided to go in "Ripon" steamer, on account of a leak in "Candia" steamer; was told it would sail on Monday next. Captain Derriman dined on board with us.

Saturday, 23rd December. — My horses were shifted from "Vittoria" to the "Ripon." The "Candia" sailed in the evening for Malta. Went on board "Ripon," to see horses, &c.

Sunday, 24th December. — Yacht was shifted to the eastern side of the bridge. Very bad weather, and I scarcely left the yacht. Doctor Tyce came to luncheon, and Lord William Powlett dined and slept on board, and Captain Inglis dined.

Monday, 25th December, Christmas Day. — Doctor Tyce came on board again about men in hospitals, their numbers, and names. I went on board "Ripon" for a short time, and rode up to Messiries Hotel.

Tuesday, 26th December. — Called on Lady Stratford at about 3 P.M. Went to Messiries, and gave cheque for watch intended for Meer Ali at Devena. Dined at 4 P.M., with De Burgh and Captain Inglis. Gave Captain Inglis a cheque for £100, to be laid out for the benefit of the sick and wounded of the Light Cavalry Brigade in hospital at Scutari. Crossed over in yacht at a quarter after 5 to the "Ripon," off Scutari. Went on board immediately, and took baggage and servants on board. A good many officers and invalided men on board. Finally got under weigh for England, at 7½ P.M.

Wednesday, 27th December. — Made the neighbourhood of Gallipoli at 7 A.M. Sighted my yacht, which had gone ahead all night. Passed Gallipoli when

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

at breakfast, between 9 and 10 o'clock. Passed Mitylini at about 2 P.M. Reached Doro Pass at 3½ A.M.

Thursday, 28th December.—Passed Isle of Colonna, where is the Temple of Minerva, at 7½ A.M. Arrived at Cape St. Angelo at about 1 P.M., and passed Cape Matapan at 6 P.M.

Friday, 29th December.—Fine and calm weather in open sea for Malta.

Saturday, 30th December.—Anchored in Valetta harbour, Malta, at 2 P.M., having sighted Malta for some time. Called on Admiral Stewart and dined with him, as did also Captain Dacres and Colonel MacMahon.

Sunday, 31st December.—Called on General Ferguson, commanding the troops, and Sir William Reid, Civil Governor, who was absent in the country. Landed my horses, and sent them to stables on the Strada St. Marc, and Major Packington, Assistant Military Secretary to the Commander of the Forces, promised to arrange a passage for them to England. Sailed at 7½ P.M. for Marseilles, in "Ripon," having landed invalids. Several officers left the ship.

1855.

Monday, 1st January.—Sighted Sicily early in the morning, having passed certain lighthouses and town of Marsala. Passed the isle of Maritimo, at the north-western point, at about 4 P.M. This isle is the Neapolitan state prison island.

Tuesday, 2nd January.—Continued our course towards the Straits of Bonifacio. Passed the lighthouses of the Straits at 6 or 7 P.M., making our course to the north of Corsica, in the direction of Nice and Genoa. Weather fair, but consider-able swell. The Captain would not pass the Straits of Bonifacio, on account of strong contrary wind. Heard afterwards that a French packet got into great difficulties in the Straits, having General de Montebello on board, returning from the Crimea, where he had gone out with orders from the French Government. I was very unwell during this voyage.

Wednesday, 3rd January.—Arrived off the northern lighthouses of the island of Corsica at half-past 8 A.M., and changed our course towards Marseilles. Had a magnificent view of the Apen- nine mountains, covered with snow, all the afternoon. In the morning had a clear view of the Isle of Elba. (What recollections of former happy but still to be regretted days.) Had a view of western coast of Corsica in the afternoon. Went slow at night, passing Hyeres islands, and arrived off Marseilles very early, and lay-to till daylight.

Thursday, 4th January. — Anchored in Marseilles harbour precisely at 8 A.M., and went on shore to Hotel d'Orient very soon afterwards. Went to news

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

room for news, but found very little. Dined in the hotel, and slept in a house, the first time for many months!!

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, 4th January, 1855.

MY LORD,

In compliance with the desire conveyed to me by the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker, I have the satisfaction to signify to your Lordship, as shewn in the accompanying paper, the unanimous resolutions of the Houses of Parliament, expressing their thanks for your distinguished conduct in the brilliant operations in which you have taken part in the Crimea.

I have the honour to be,

MY LORD, Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servant,
RAGLAN.

Friday, 5th January.—Left Marseilles at 1 o'clock, and reached Avignon at 4, where we stayed 20 minutes, and had a very good dinner, and reached Valence at half-past 9 P.M. General Montebello was in the train, on his return from the Crimea; also a Queen's Messenger. They both went on post to Lyons.

Saturday, 6th January.—We embarked on board passage-boat at half-past 8 A.M., and reached Lyons at 4 P.M., having had a very good luncheon on board. The Hotel de la Poste at Valence is a very good inn. De Burgh brought a wounded Serjeant of the Fusilier Guards with him from Malta. Dined on arrival at Hotel de l'Univers, at Lyons, at 7 P.M. ; and arrived at Hotel de Paris, at Dijon, at 11 P.M.

Sunday, 7th January.—Having been very unwell in the night, with inflamed trachea, &c, we remained at Dijon all the day. Hotel du Pare a very good hotel.

Monday, 8th January.—Started from Dijon at a quarter past 1, and reached Paris at 7; went to Hotel Westminster, and dined there. We stopped for a few minutes at Joigny.

Tuesday, 9th January.—George Barrington and the Ernest Bruces and G. Payne called on me. De Burgh dined with the Emperor. I dined alone at home.

Wednesday, 10th January.—Lord Hertford left his card on me. I went to see the Emperor by appointment at half-past 1 P.M. ; thought him looking ill and altered in appearance. Heard news of the Russians consenting to the four points named by the Allies. Dined at hotel with De Burgh, and went to see Denbigh and the Fieldings in the evening. Lord F. had called on me. The Emperor invited me to dine at the Tuilleries, but I was obliged to decline, on account of my feet and legs being so swelled from the effects of the climate in the Crimea that I could not get on either boots or shoes as an evening dress.

Transcription © Dr Douglas J Austin, 2004, 2013

Thursday, 11th January.—Left Paris by 10 A.M. train, and arrived at Boulogne soon after 5 P.M.; having had luncheon at Amiens. Went to Hotel des Bains; dined, and stayed there the night.

Friday, 12th January.—Embarked in steamer at 3 P.M., and arrived at Folkstone about 5. The crowd on the pier at Boulogne gave me three cheers for Balaklava. Went to the Pavilion Hotel, and slept there the night. Paid Sir De Lacy Evans a visit in the evening. De Burgh went off to London.

Saturday, 13th January.—Started by 8 A.M. express train, and arrived in London at 20 minutes after 10. Sent luggage home, and went myself to breakfast with De Burgh, in Grosvenor Crescent. Dined with De Burgh, and went to Lady C. M.'s box at Jullien's concert at Covent Garden. Saw Lord Hardinge in the afternoon. Received a great many letters of congratulation, and a great number of people called on me.

Sunday, 14th January.—Left card at Secretary of State for War, Duke of Newcastle. Went to evening service at St. James's Chapel. Saw my agent in the morning.

Monday, 15th January.—Called on Duke of Newcastle at his office, and had a long interview with him. Dined with Mr. De Horsey—a small party.

Tuesday, 16th January.—Received invitation early this morning to go to Windsor till Thursday next. Went down by half-past 5 train; the Besboroughs, the Walewskies, and Lady Canning at dinner. The Queen most gracious to me.

Wednesday, 17th January.—Went up to London for an hour or two. Lord Hardinge came to the Castle; dined with a very small party; sat next the Queen; talked a great deal about campaign. Guests of yesterday had gone away this morning.

Thursday, 18th January.—Was presented to the Royal children by the Queen and Prince Albert, at half-past 9 A.M., in the Great Gallery, and showed them a drawing of the Charge at Balaklava. Left the Castle at 11 A.M., and went by train to Richmond, and thence in a fly to Kew Palace, to call on Duchess of Cambridge. Saw Her Royal Highness and Princess Mary. Went on to London and saw Lord Hardinge, and was told that I should be made Inspector-General of Cavalry.

London: Printed by W. CLOWES and SONS, 14, Charing Cross.